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RUNCIE, ROYALTY AND RELIGION
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Runcie revelations force review of future Supreme Governor's position

Angry Church leaders query Prince's role

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales's suitability to become Supreme Governor of the Church of England is being questioned at the highest level after Lord Runcie's assessment that he has "given up" on the Church. Church leaders, already dismayed by the Prince's confession of adultery and divorce, are privately appalled by the revelations in Humphrey Carpenter's biography of the former Archbishop of Canterbury and the Prince's future position is now under review. Lord Runcie's assertion that the Prince is disenchanted with the Church and that he is more interested in a "Laurens van der Post spirituality" confirmed many people's suspicions, and a senior source said last night: "The Church of England is very concerned about the mid-term relationship between the monarchy and the Church."

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strong statement of Christian commitment from the Prince. But in his television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby last year, the Prince expressed his wish to be "defender of faith" rather than the defender of the Protestant faith. That view is not acceptable to many. The leading evangelical, the Rev David Holloway, said: "He is committed to a multi-faith approach, a pluralistic approach. He has to be true to himself, but the Church of England is clear on that: it is not multi-faith."

assumed for conversations between archbishops, heads of state and royalty appears to have been breached. Mr Carpenter's book contains telling details of the Prince of Wales's marriage preparations, and steps are being taken to prevent a repetition. One Church leader said: "We've all learnt our lesson. From now on, any official biography of a Church leader will be carried out with all the necessary legal agreements drawn up, so that nothing like this can appear while the subject is still alive." Lord Runcie invited Mr Carpenter to write the biography, but was so dismayed by the end result that he withdrew his support and wrote a postscript saying: "I have done my best to die before this book is published."



Through the eye of a needle: the Prince in Birmingham yesterday as controversy raged over his religious beliefs

Boy wins caning case hearing in Europe

By FRANCES GIBB
 LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A BOY aged 12 yesterday cleared the first hurdle in bringing a test case in Europe which could lead to the smacking of children by parents being outlawed. The challenge stems from an incident three years ago when the boy's stepfather beat him with a garden cane after he tried to stab a child with a kitchen knife. The man was acquitted of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. But the boy, who cannot be identified, hopes to take his complaint to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Yesterday the European Commission of Human Rights held that the boy's application, which is backed by his natural father with whom he now lives, was "admissible" — in other words, that the Government has a case to answer. This is the first step in lodging a complaint at Strasbourg. Now the commission will try to secure what is called a "friendly settlement" between lawyers for the boy and

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"It's for you — it's your solicitor"

Hanson wary of Labour's business pitch

By PHILIP WEBSTER
 POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR'S attempts to portray Labour as more sympathetic to business are dismissed today by Lord Hanson, the industrialist. The party's new business policies amply justify suspicion of new Labour and prove that, like old Labour, it stands for regulation and interference and is hostile to true competition, according to the chairman of the Hanson conglomerate. Writing in *The Times*, Lord Hanson examines Labour's business manifesto and says it "does not encourage me to place my bet on new Labour".

Lord Hanson, page 18

Public may be allowed to hit back at strikers

By PHILIP BASSETT, JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

PLANS to allow the unions to be sued for heavy damages if they order strikes in the monopoly public services and longer cooling-off periods before industrial action are to be considered by ministers. The proposal to remove immunities from civil action will go before a Cabinet committee. Conservative sources said, as John Major and Tony Blair tried to out-manoeuvre each other over action to avoid strikes in the public sector. Mr Blair will deliver a tough message today to trade union leaders, telling them to co-operate with a Labour government. He will arrive in Blackpool this afternoon to appeal to the TUC for a new "evolutionary relationship" with the party. The Labour leader is determined to under-

line the message that his party is no longer in lock to the trade unions and that they will be given no special favours. However, Labour appeared to row back yesterday on the idea of compulsory arbitration by suggesting that it would back "binding arbitration" for public-sector disputes after trade union leaders reacted furiously to reports that Mr Blair was intent on new laws effectively banning strikes. The Tories were equally determined yesterday to ensure that they were not outflanked by Labour. The Prime Minister and Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said that the Government was drawing up legislation to curb industrial action, giving a clear warning that public service workers could no longer

be permitted to "hold the public to ransom". Mr Major said: "Strikes against the people who pay taxes seem to me to be out of date and wholly inappropriate in a monopoly service." His remarks were elaborated by party sources who said that the idea of removing immunity from public service strikers was back on the agenda. Under it, unions which organise strikes in essential services could face damages that would bankrupt them. Ministers also confirmed that they were thinking about extending to a fortnight, or even a month, the present seven-day compulsory notice period of strikes that unions have to give to employers.

Monks' rallying call, page 2

Police anger over database disorder

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S unique DNA database, a ground-breaking weapon in the fight against crime, is in disarray with less than half of the 168,000 samples sent by police having been processed. Thousands of samples taken when the database opened 18 months ago are still being stored frozen, according to police sources. The backlog, which is not expected to be cleared until the middle of next year, is blamed on shortages of staff and equipment. Chief constables fear the delay may prevent the identity of some criminals, including rapists and murderers, from being discovered. This autumn the eight Scottish forces will start sending in samples. Police have demanded action from the Forensic Science Service, which it says had

agreed to have samples processed and entered on the databank within 14 days. They accuse the scientists of ignoring police estimates for the number of samples and using too few staff. The £10 million database was opened in Birmingham in April 1995 to house the DNA profiles of offenders convicted of sex offences, violent crime and burglary. Legislation introduced to allow police to take samples was hailed by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, as a breakthrough in the fight against crime. A spokeswoman for the Home Office said the backlog had been created by teething problems, most of which had been solved. Extra staff had been recruited and a second processing office would open in London later this year.

Government lawyers seek to close new fraud loophole

By OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT lawyers are urgently working to plug a legal loophole that has seriously undermined the ability of prosecuting authorities to tackle a range of frauds. The problem is a recent law lords' ruling that prevents use of the Theft Act of 1968 to prosecute cases where money is passed from one person's bank account to another's. The ruling, in a case called *Preddy*, has led the Serious Fraud Office to call for a Bill in the next parliamentary session.

As a result of the ruling, which was made in July, prosecuting authorities have been left to try to bring far less appropriate charges, such as conspiracy to defraud, which is harder to prove and does not in any case affect cases where only one criminal is involved. Stephen Silber, QC, a Law Commissioner who is involved in preparing a draft report and Bill to close the loophole, said the ruling's impact was huge. At first the ruling was thought to have had its biggest impact on mortgage fraud, and there were fears of a

large number of appeals being lodged by convicted fraudsters. But a further ruling has limited the right of fraudsters to lodge appeals and only a handful have done so. The law lords, in a judgment given by Lord Goff of Chieveley, ruled that when money was passed electronically or by telegram between bank accounts, no identifiable property was involved. The transfer cannot therefore amount to an attempt to obtain property dishonestly. In the transfer, one person's right to the property is extinguished and another's created, which

cannot amount to obtaining the property of another. Publicly, prosecuting authorities are trying to play down the impact of the ruling. The Crown Prosecution Service said that only a handful of pending cases were affected. But a spokesman added: "We all want to see the difficulties that this case has exposed resolved, although it is ultimately a matter for the Home Office." In private, however, officials in both the CPS and the SFO are alarmed, particularly if legislation is not forthcoming.

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Plan to torture rich businessman

Jailed kidnapper plotted second abduction in cell

By RICHARD DUCE

A CONVICTED kidnapper hatched a sophisticated plan from his high-security prison cell to abduct, torture and murder a wealthy businessman in an attempt to extort £20 million, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

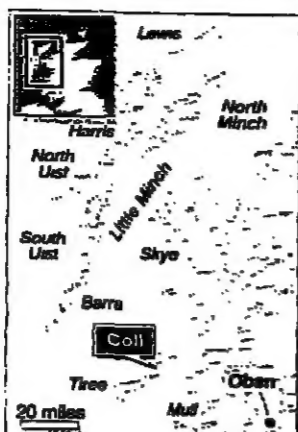
The businessman was to have been held on a remote island in the Hebrides, injected with heroin and forced to authorise money transfers, the court was told.

Then the scheme was to have the businessman killed — probably with a drug overdose — because the mastermind of the plan, Sachverell De Houghton, had been caught before when a kidnapper victim escaped.

De Houghton, 56, serving ten years for the earlier kidnapping, planned to recruit professional criminals to carry out the abduction of the businessman, known only as Mr G. William Boyce for the prosecution, said. De Houghton had set in train an intricate scheme to gain the confidence of Mr G, and was to set up bogus credentials as well as bank accounts into which the ransom money could be paid.

His first kidnapper victim, a dealer in Russian icons, had been lured by De Houghton's claims to have similar works of art for sale. De Houghton knew Mr G to be a collector of fine furniture and convinced him by letter that he had valuable items to sell. After De Houghton negotiated through solicitors ostensibly to buy a castle on Coll, in the Inner Hebrides, Mr G had been invited there to view the furniture. The prosecution alleges that Mr G would then have been held against his will and forced to arrange money transfers running into millions of pounds.

Mr Boyce told the court how De Houghton developed the plan over three years. It included using Everton Morrison, a former calligrapher, to recruit professional criminals.



De Houghton was also devising a scheme to have himself broken out of jail to take full control of the plot after failing to negotiate parole or early release.

Morrison's first recruit met with De Houghton's disapproval and the plan began to unravel when approaches were made to find a second team. Morrison met up with what he believed to be a hardened criminal, but who turned out to be an undercover police officer known as Richard.

Richard tape-recorded many of his meetings with Morrison before it was decided to move in and arrest him and De Houghton who was serving time in a prison on the Isle of Wight.

Mr Boyce described how De Houghton had been jailed in March 1992 for abduction but from then on was "preparing for the day when he would be released and wished to make sure he would have substantial funds to enjoy life".

From his cell De Houghton established "a whole host" of communications. He negotiated the purchase of a castle on Coll and also an alternative base to hold Mr G on an isolated estate in Cornwall. De Houghton had headed stationary printed with the two addresses. He then engaged the services of solicitors, surveyors and banks to set up a

chain allowing him to launder the ransom money, which included setting up an account in Denmark. Mr Boyce said: "Morrison was to buy heroin, which De Houghton emphasised should be pure, to be administered to G. He was also to buy LSD as well as CS gas and a tourniquet to render veins more accessible for injection." Mr Boyce said Mr G "would be forced to issue instructions to his staff under torture".

The court was told how De Houghton, who was worried about being caught again, issued instructions at the end of many of his letters that they should be destroyed after being read. However, Morrison kept many of them as "security".

The court was told how Richard visited De Houghton in jail and, after initial reservations, the kidnapper mastermind decided he would be an ideal recruit. In fact, Richard gained De Houghton's confidence to such an extent that Morrison was relegated to a secondary role.

Police finally moved in in February this year fearing that De Houghton might have recruited an alternative gang that would murder Mr G while their covert operation was going on. Morrison was arrested at a station near his home in Thornton Heath, south London, and close to tears asked police, "How long will I get for this?" it was alleged.

De Houghton claimed that he was acting under duress from another criminal. Mr Boyce said: "He claimed he was acting under instructions because he was in fear of a violent and dangerous criminal from his prison."

Both De Houghton and Morrison deny charges of conspiring to murder and conspiring to kidnap between January 1, 1993 and February 14, 1996. De Houghton also denies soliciting Mr Morrison to both murder and kidnap. The trial continues today.



Helen Mirren said that she was "dead chuffed" — that's "very pleased"

Mirren scoops best actress in the Emmys

FROM GILES WHITTILL IN LOS ANGELES

HELEN Mirren crowned a triumphant night for British television at the fifth Emmy awards ceremony.

Receiving an award for her part in *Prime Suspect: Scent of Darkness*, she said: "Thank you so much. I'm dead chuffed. That means 'I'm very, very pleased' in American." Minutes later Ms Mirren said her days as the gritty detective in the *Prime Suspect* series were over. "I think you have to quit while you're ahead, and I'm definitely ahead," she said having won the award for best actress in a TV film.

Proving that the Oscars are not the only night when British talent can bask in the Hollywood limelight, Alan Rickman, Greta Scacchi and the producer Duncan Kenworthy also won Emmys. Rickman, named as best actor in a television film for his lead role in *Rasputin*, said he was "dead chuffed, too". Scacchi won best supporting role for *Rasputin*.

No single programme swept the board at the ceremony in Pasadena, but *ER*, the fast-paced medical drama, won the prestigious award for best drama series.

Dennis Franz, the balding detective from *NYPD Blue*, was declared the best actor in a drama series, beating stiff competition from George Clooney, who plays one of *ER*'s doctors.

Frasier, the series about an arrogant psychiatrist, won the best comedy series Emmy, and the actor Rip Torn won a prize for his role

in *The Larry Sanders Show*, a spoof on late-night talk shows.

It was a night of disappointment for Angela Lansbury, the best-known Briton on American television. Nominated for the sixteenth time after her last season as the lead in *Murder, She Wrote*, she missed out yet again on the award.

For producer Duncan Kenworthy it was a triumphant evening. His four-part version of *Gulliver's Travels*, starring Ted Danson, won five awards including the coveted best mini-series. The recognition was "very sweet satisfaction".

Gulliver's Travels was largely financed and produced in Britain.

The show, watched by 600 million in 85 countries, reflected the vast scale of the TV industry in this country.

Rickman: best actor for role in *Rasputin*

Star Wars deal sees the force back in Britain

By DALYA ALBERGE

GEORGE LUCAS, the man behind the *Star Wars* film trilogy, is to shoot his next three science fiction epics in Britain. The £1.3 billion project, the largest in cinematic history, including merchandising, will keep thousands of British actors and technicians at work.

The space-adventure movies will be filmed at the Leavesden Studios, Britain's newest film centre, built on a 300-acre aerodrome near Watford where the James Bond movie *Gold-*

eye was shot. The deal is a coup for Leavesden as the studio has not yet been fully converted, according to the *Hollywood Reporter*.

Mr Lucas, writer and director of box-office classics including *Star Wars* (1977), *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Return of the Jedi* (1983), signed a financial contract with the makers of Pepsi last year. Twenty years ago, Twentieth Century Fox gave him an \$11.5 million budget after every other studio had rejected the idea because audiences for

science fiction seemed too limited. The new films will tell the story preceding the original *Star Wars* plot, which inspired such a cult following that the videos were top-ten hits throughout 1994.

The original *Star Wars* films were made at EMI. When the project was announced last year there had been concern in Britain that the blockbusters would be made in America.

EMI has only recently become available again as a studio facility

after a protracted legal battle. Leavesden is one of the only facilities in the world that could accommodate such a large-scale project. Up to £200 million is being spent over the next three years on developing it as a sprawling studio and entertainment complex.

The \$3 billion deal with PepsiCo is expected to make George Lucas one of the richest men in Hollywood. The agreement will cover all production costs and should leave Lucas with a substantial profit.

Botham to seek libel retrial

By A STAFF REPORTER

IAN BOTHAM is to appeal and seek a retrial after losing his libel battle against Imran Khan, his lawyer said yesterday.

Botham, who with fellow cricketer Allan Lamb sought damages against the former Pakistani captain, is appealing on the grounds that the jury was misdirected during the libel action, which they lost in July leaving them with an estimated legal bill of £400,000.

Botham and Lamb sued Imran for libel, claiming that he branded them cheats and racists. But a High Court jury rejected their action after a 13-day trial.

Rhory Robertson, from Botham's solicitors Swepstone Walsh, said: "We are appealing against the majority verdict of the jury." He said Lamb was still considering his position and would make a decision after meeting his legal team on Wednesday. Both men were expected to appeal against the verdict.

Lamb has until the end of the month to lodge a challenge. He said last week: "I'm thinking of an appeal at the moment and I'll see how we go from there."

Howard Cohen, solicitor for Imran, said that he was trying to get in touch with his client, who would be vigorously fighting the appeal.



Botham: appeal set in motion

Wheelchair thief got away too fast

By ROBIN YOUNG

AN ARMED robber's speedy getaway after holding up a fish-and-chip shop in his wheelchair was his downfall.

Darren Staddon, 21, paralysed from the waist after a fall last year, had to be helped into the shop in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, by two other customers because he could not get up the two steps without assistance. When his turn came to be served he ordered a spring roll, milk shake and a jar of cockles. Then, while the shop owner's back was turned, he pulled out an imitation handgun and demanded money from the till.

Having been given about £100 by the terrified owner, Staddon then wheeled away as fast as he could go. Police arrested him soon afterwards in a local pub after a tip-off from a courting couple. They noticed the fleeing robber because they were so surprised to see a man in a wheelchair travelling so fast.

At Gloucester Crown Court yesterday Judge Hutton told Staddon that an able-bodied robber would normally have been given a six-year sentence. But because of Staddon's disability and the difficulties he would face in prison, the judge said he would be merciful.

Staddon, who admitted robbery and possession of a firearm in the course of a crime, was allowed to go free with a two-year sentence suspended for two years.

The court was told that Staddon, from Gloucester, still had open wounds resulting from the fall that had broken his spine and could walk only a short distance with the aid of a frame. Richard Williams, for his defence, said Staddon had been intending to sell the imitation gun.

hail to try to ban his books. Dulwich College, his old school, removed his name from its roll.

Wodehouse was arrested as a German collaborator after the liberation of Paris in 1944 but was never charged. He was released and moved to Long Island, New York.

The files, being prepared for release at the Public Record Office in Kew, will give the detailed text of all the broadcasts. They also include the report of an 1944 investigation by MI5 into Wodehouse's activities.

The report, which was the basis for a decision not to prosecute, looked at allegations that Wodehouse, while living in France, had not tried to escape from the advancing Nazis; that he had invited German officers into his house; that he won special privileges while interned; and that he bought release from internment by agreeing to do the broadcasts.

Release of wartime files 'will clear Wodehouse of treachery charge'

By RICHARD FORD

SECRET government files on P.G. Wodehouse, the humorist and novelist whose wartime activities led him to be branded a traitor, are to be released later this month.

The 50-year-old records are expected to clear Wodehouse of the treachery charge that has stained his reputation since the Second World War. The case against him was based on broadcasts he made to America after being interned by the Germans.

The broadcasts provoked outrage in Britain and he never returned after the war, living in America until his death in 1975 at the age of 93. In 1971 Edward Heath, then Prime Minister, refused to recommend him for a knighthood and it was only in 1975, on Harold Wilson's recommendation, that he received the honour.

The Wodehouse files, cleared for release by the Home Secretary under the



Wodehouse: made broadcasts for the Germans that cast a lasting shadow over his reputation

open-government initiative, were originally closed for up to 75 years on national security grounds.

Between June and August 1941, Wodehouse made five broadcasts from Germany to the United States, leading Quintin Hogg, now Lord Hailsham, to denounce him in Parliament as a traitor. Wodehouse was living in France when the Germans

interned him in 1940. After a spell in a concentration camp he and his wife were put up in hotels in Berlin and Paris.

His broadcasts, in which he was introduced as "the father of the inimitable Jeeves and Wooster", were not strongly pro-German but whimsical descriptions of his internment. They prompted the *Daily Express* to dub him Herr Wodehouse and White-



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Runcie's fear that Charles has 'given up' on the Church reflects a lifetime of doubt and questioning

Prince has searched his soul for the truth of faith

By ALAN HAMILTON

HAD the Prince of Wales been born in an earlier age, he might well have been burnt at the stake as a heretic. The probable next Supreme Governor of the Church of England has upset traditionalists by indulging in adultery and divorce. But he upsets them at a deeper level, too: he refuses to accept that religion is necessarily the same thing as faith.

He was christened in the music room of Buckingham Palace in 1948 by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher, who doubtless thought that the child would grow up to be as unquestioning of the Anglican faith as his mother. However, the child's natural intelligence and capacity for introspection ensured that he was destined to take nothing for granted.

Unhappy in the breezy outdoor pursuits ethos of Gordonstoun, an institution he regarded as bordering on the pagan, he sought and found solace in the school

chapel. But in letters home he complained that the building, used also for film shows or games in wet weather, "has no atmosphere of the mysterious a church gives one".

Teachers at the Scottish boarding school, founded by a refugee from Nazi Germany who did not list introspection among the core subjects to be taught to the young elite, noticed that Charles was much more curious than his contemporaries to learn about the authority of the Bible and the origin of the Gospels.

His schooling coincided not only with the freewheeling Sixties but with a period of intense self-doubt within the Anglican Church. Dr John Robinson had just published *Honest To God*, challenging many accepted Anglican precepts; and Mervyn Stockwood, Bishop of Southwark, dressed in purple tie rather than dog collar, arrived at Gordonstoun to challenge the pupils' views of the English



Van der Post urged Prince to retire

national religion. The Prince took his confirmation seriously at the age of 16, having been schooled in the faith by Robin Woods, Dean of Windsor, who found him unusually interested in the matter.

During his two-term overseas schooling at Geelong Grammar School in Melbourne, the Prince had

another formative experience when he joined a school trip to Papua New Guinea. The party visited an Anglican mission where native Papuans had built a crude cathedral and thrown themselves enthusiastically into worship of the white man's religion. Charles noted in his diary: "Everyone was so eager to take part in the services and the singing was almost deafening. One felt it might almost be the original Church."

During his three years at Cambridge, the Prince had much ecclesiastical dissent poured into his receptive ear, not least from a series of lectures he attended at nearby Great St Mary's church, organised by its then vicar, Hugh Montefiore. But his biggest influence was the Rev Harry Williams, Dean of Chapel at Trinity College, who led him through an examination of religious faith as seen through the eyes of Freud and Jung. "I always thought he was a deep person, that he wasn't taken in by the surfaces



The young Prince arriving

at Gordonstoun, an institution he regarded as bordering on the pagan

of life," Williams later wrote. Whilst at Cambridge, the Prince's search for the inner truth led him to correspond at length with Dr Stockwood again. They explored religion and parapsychology which, in an earlier time, would have been regarded as consorting

with the Devil. Charles urged the University of Wales, of which he is Chancellor, to establish the Arthur Koestler chair of parapsychology; they refused and it went to Edinburgh.

After Cambridge, the Prince fell under the spell of Laurens

van der Post, who persuaded Charles that there was a whole dimension missing from his life. Van der Post's detractors regarded him at best as a plausible self-publicist and at worst a charlatan, but the Prince was completely won over by the old man's theories of the world of the spirit and man's place in the nature, as practised by the bushmen of the Kalahari.

Van der Post urged Charles to give up all his official duties for a spell and retire into contemplation, but the dutiful Prince refused. By this time, however, he was strongly at odds with conventional churchmen, anxious to know more of Buddhism and Hinduism, and shaping in his mind a concept of the soul.

He began to make philosophical speeches, some of which were lost on his audience: "I feel that deep in the soul of mankind there is a reflection as on the surface of a mirror", left his listeners in a mite bemused. His ideas became more refined. When setting up his Institute of Architecture in 1992, he told its director that he wanted its students taught reverence — "reverence for the landscape and the soil, for the human spirit".

The Prince, still a regular

communicant of the Church of England who prays on his knees nightly, has called for a greater understanding of Islam. He said Mass with Pope John Paul II in his private chapel at the Vatican, has cautioned Western civilisation not to abandon spirituality in its relentless quest for a better computer chip and regards Henry VIII's split from Rome as a matter of politics which had little to do with faith.

In his 1994 television interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the Prince said: "I personally would rather see [the title] as Defender of Faith, not the Faith... I would much rather it was seen as defending faith itself, which is so often under threat in our day, where the whole concept of faith itself or anything beyond this existence, beyond life itself, is considered almost old-fashioned and irrelevant."

His staff hastened to point out that the Prince was making a personal statement of faith and was not suggesting the disestablishment of the Church of England. The Prince's own view is that disestablishment is a matter for the Church, not the Crown. He also believes that faith is a far more important matter than the politics of religion.

Leading article, page 19

How Mitre and Crown often bump heads

■ The relationship between monarch and Archbishop of Canterbury has not always been what it should be. Ruth Gledhill writes



ARCHBISHOPS are chosen with their future relationship with the monarch in mind, but things have not always gone as smoothly as was hoped, with animosity on occasions being mutual.

Archbishops of Canterbury have had complex relationships with the monarchy, encompassing public and private roles. In 1936, Archbishop Cosmo Lang, a Presbyterian by birth and a close friend of Queen Mary, played a central role in the abdication of Edward VIII.

Lang was suspected of having conspired to bring about the abdication, and publicly criticised the King for putting his love for Wallis Simpson before his country. He was felt to be kicking a man when he was down and made himself even more unpopular with the Royal Family and the country by remarks during the Second World War that were thought to be pro-German.

Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop from 1945 to 1961, was accused of putting pressure on Princess Margaret to refuse to marry the man she loved, Group Captain Peter Townsend, although this was later denied.

According to Professor Owen Chadwick, the leading church historian, there have been since Queen Victoria's time three elements to the Archbishop of Canterbury's relationship with the monarch. "One thing is the formal relationship between the monarch as Supreme Governor of the Church and the Archbishop as ecclesiastical head of the Church. This formal and constitutional relationship does not depend on the personal relationship between the two people concerned."

Secondly, since the time of Queen Victoria, the Crown has generally been helped by the Archbishop's advice when the Prime Minister recommends people for high office in the Church.

Thirdly, there is a personal

and private relationship. The Dean of Windsor and the Archbishop of Canterbury have been since the time of Victoria personal chaplains to the monarch. The Archbishop does things like preparing the children for confirmation and baptising them."

He said this relationship had developed because of Queen Victoria's close friendship with Archbishop Archibald Tait, who served at Canterbury from 1868 to 1883. Victoria was moved that within a month, all but two of his seven children died of scarlet fever. Tait became the first Archbishop of modern times to be personally close to the Sovereign.

Randall Davidson, who became Archbishop in 1903, after Queen Victoria's death, married Tait's daughter and was enormously helpful to Victoria when he was Dean of Windsor. He went on to develop an equally close relationship with Edward VII.

Archbishop William Temple, who served during the Second World War, was well-liked by the monarchy but his influence was limited because of the brevity of his time at Lambeth, where he was for three years.

Archbishop Michael Ramsey, at Lambeth from 1961 to 1974, had a special relationship with the present monarch that developed from when he was Bishop of Durham and therefore had the right to stand at her side during the Coronation. The Queen was reportedly enchanted by his huge bushy eyebrows and his equally large personality, although their friendship was slightly limited by the difficulty he experienced in talking about anything other than theology.

Archbishop Donald Coggan, who succeeded him, was the kind of chaplain the Royal Family loves, because of his direct, straightforward faith and his ability to explain himself well.

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Parents withdraw pupils over cost of disruptive boy

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS removed more than half the pupils from a school yesterday in protest at the return of a disruptive ten-year-old over whom teachers came close to striking last week.

Thirty families began the boycott at Manton Junior School in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, soon after the escorted arrival of Matthew Wilson. More than 50 other parents withdrew their children at lunchtime. Governors have twice refused to back the head teacher and expel Matthew for unruly behaviour.

The parents fear that the cost of an extra teacher, £14,000, to educate Matthew in isolation — in a deal to prevent teachers walking out — will damage their children's education. About 150 parents have signed a petition for his permanent removal. Many are threatening not to return their children tomorrow.

One mother said: "That



Matthew Wilson arriving at school yesterday

money is coming out of the budget for all the other children and it is our children that are losing out again because he cannot behave himself. We lost a teacher last year through redundancy but they have found

own teacher, which is a bit much."

Governors said they had no choice but to spend the money because the school would have to close if the seven teachers in the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers went on strike. Nottinghamshire County Council has allowed the school to go into the red to fund an extra teacher but will not give it any extra cash.

Caroline Morrison, a parent-governor, said: "The parents are saying they will keep their children away from school while Matthew is having one-to-one teaching. But we do not want one-to-one teaching for Matthew; the NASUWT has pushed us into this because they would not accept him back into the school otherwise."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT, said he understood the concerns of parents who had



Class action: parents removing their children from Manton Junior School yesterday in protest at the £14,000 being spent on a pupil in isolation

withheld their children. "The solution to the problem posed by the continued presence of the pupil in question at the school is very far from ideal. This was the only way of keeping the school open. I think the parents are right to ask the questions they have."

A county spokesman said that the head teacher was considering holding a meeting of parents if the boycott contin-

ued. Matthew, accused by teachers of bullying other children and threatening them, once with a baseball bat, was allowed back provided he agreed to a contract of good behaviour.

He arrived with his teacher after lessons had started yesterday and left just before lunchtime to avoid other pupils and was said to have had a quiet and productive day.

Pamela Cliffe, his mother, said she had agreed to the special arrangements only to prevent a strike closing the 190-pupil school. She denied that Matthew was uncontrollable.

Steven Williams, her solicitor, said she remained unhappy about his segregation. "If she had refused the isolation package there would have been a strike and everyone

would have blamed it on her. She is now upset that he is being given no incentive to improve his behaviour."

He added: "Not being allowed to play with other kids is a hell of a punishment for a ten-year-old. It's not going to develop his social skills."

□ A five-year-old boy returned to school yesterday after being tested for the Aids virus and hepatitis B. He had

stabbed himself four times in the hands with needles discarded by drug addicts near his home in Grantham, Lincolnshire.

The results of the tests will be known in three months. His school's headmaster said other parents had been supportive of the boys' family and denied reports that some feared he could infect their children if allowed back.

Credit trail led Alaska rangers to dead hiker

By STEPHEN FARRELL

ALASKAN park rangers used a dead British hiker's credit cards to track him to the remote ravine where his body lay.

David Harrison, 31, head of mathematics at Shrewsbury School in Shropshire, was reported missing when he failed to return home after a trip to the Wrangell-St Elias National Park and Preserve.

His worried father Peter contacted park rangers on September 2 but did not know where his son, a qualified and experienced climber, had gone in the vast state.

However, the search area was narrowed when Mark Twells, a fellow teacher and head of information technology at the school, searched Mr Harrison's room, found which maps he had bought and e-mailed Alaskan police with the details. Tim Saskowsky, the investigating ranger, compared the list with maps Mr Harrison left at a friend's home in Anchorage, and eliminated all but two areas in the 5.2 million hectare park.

A credit card check showed that Mr Harrison had also bought a guide book and used a bus from a company based

in Glenallen which ferries hikers to several trailheads.

"After several days of intensive investigative work, the search area for this case was limited from a state-wide search, to a park-wide search and, finally, to a particular drainage," a Wrangell-St Elias spokesman said. "Through a series of interviews and phone calls, Tim was able to narrow the search before we brought in any ground crews."

Two rangers finally began the search over difficult terrain on a 45-mile trek in Rock Creek last Friday. They found Mr Harrison's tent within three hours but could not get into an inaccessible gorge and called in a helicopter.

His body was seen the next day at the bottom of a 300ft ravine and was recovered on Sunday. He is thought to have fallen while hiking alone.

Ted Maidment, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School, paid tribute to his colleague, a bachelor and Cambridge first class mathematics graduate who took up his position at the school after teaching at Tonbridge School in Kent and Clifton College, Bristol.

"He was an excellent teacher and a very highly qualified climber," Mr Maidment said. "There is a tremendous sense of sadness at his loss. He was very popular with the boys and we only realised something was wrong when he did not come back on August 29 to run a Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award trip to the Lake District. I have been in close contact with his father and had to tell the boys that he was missing at chapel on Sunday."



Jail inquiry into prisoner's poems

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A PRISON service inquiry began last night into how disturbing verses by Charles Bronson, one of Britain's most violent prisoners, were published in a men's magazine.

Five pages of the work of Bronson, who held three Iraqi hostages at knife-point in Belmarsh jail at the weekend, are printed in the magazine. Under the headline "King of the Road: extracts from the diary of a psychopath", Bronson pours out his feelings, including a fantasy about trying to kill a man.

One poem, entitled *The Night I Tried To Kill*

Gordon Robinson describes the attempted murder of a patient in Broadmoor special hospital. It is understood the poem is a fantasy by Bronson, who changed his name from Michael Peterson to that of the American star of the film *Death Wish*. Bronson was detained in the hospital before being transferred to prison. Broadmoor has no record of a patient called Gordon Robinson. It also has no knowledge of Bronson, 45, from Luton in Bedfordshire, ever attempting to kill a fellow patient.

Last night, as the Prison Service inquiry began, Lalsaid it would report *Esquire* magazine to the Press Complaints Commission. Alan Michael, home affairs spokesman, said: "This is in profoundly bad taste and glorifies violence."

Bill Driff, governor at the top-security jail at Woolwich in southeast London, began an investigation into the publication of Bronson's work, which the magazine describes as a "cri de coeur from a soul fighting the evil in itself — and losing".

While in jail Bronson has been sentenced for a series of hostage-taking attempts on governors.

CORRECTIONS

□ Dr David Wheelwright, son of the distinguished fabric designer John Sylvester Wheelwright, did not, contrary to a report (August 29), die during service with the RAF. He is alive and well and swimming 25 lengths every morning. We apologise for the error.

□ Jonathan Stone is unrelated to Mr Morris Leigh, whose will was reported on September 5, and is not a beneficiary of the estate.

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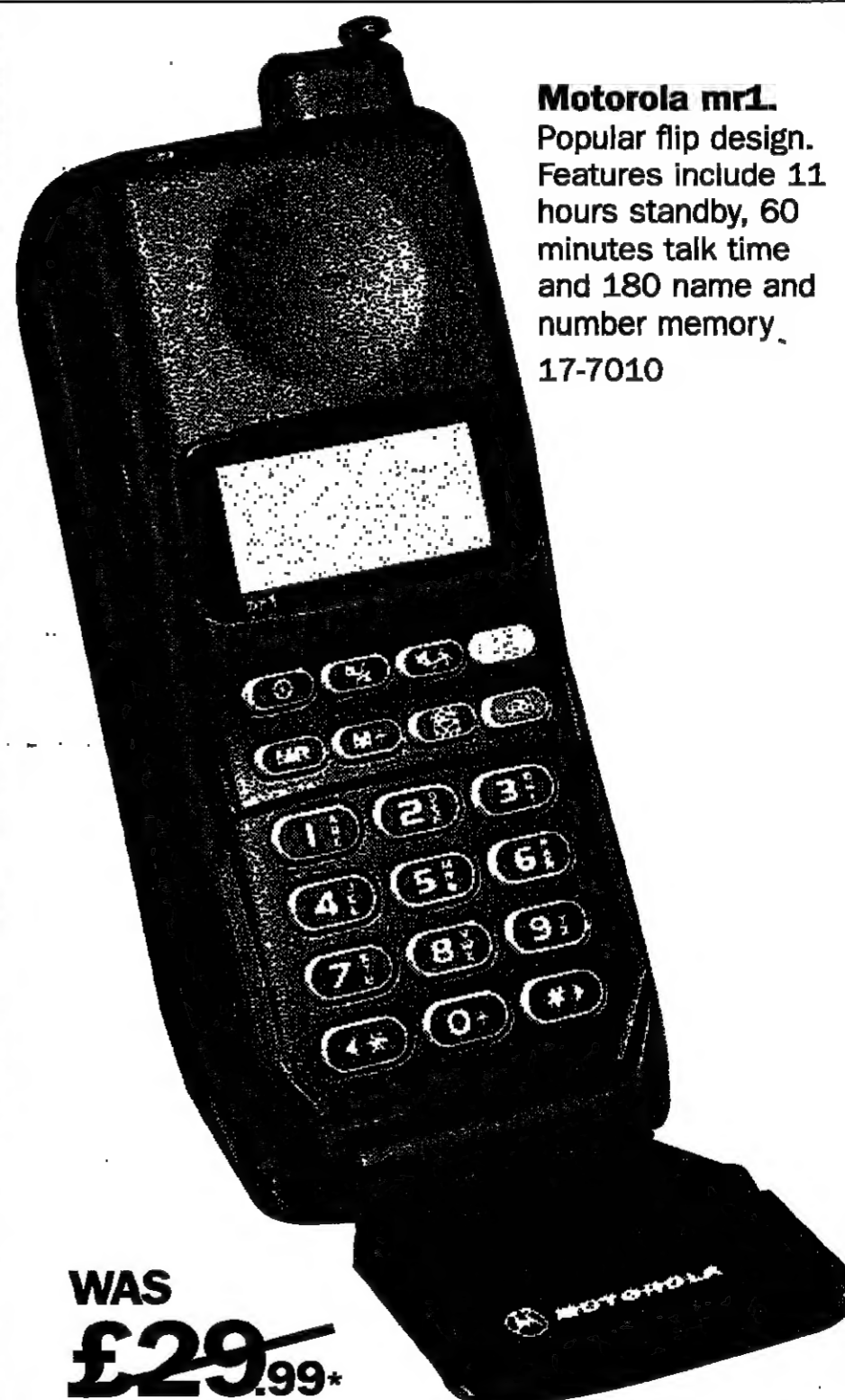
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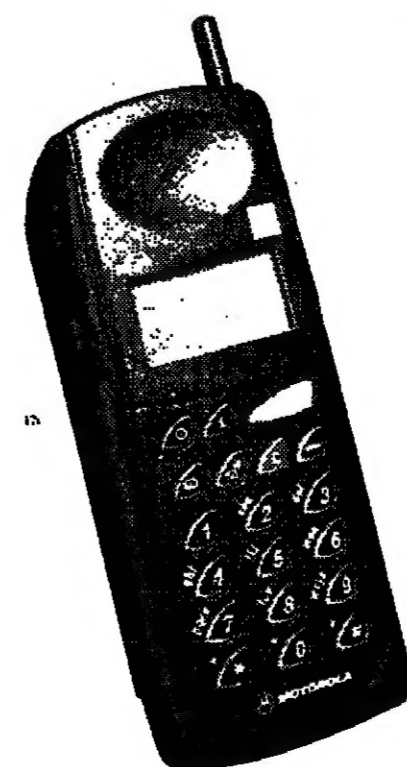
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Man who had been physically abused wanted to punish Christians 'for their ability to forgive'

Satanist who tried to kill vicar gets life

By RUSSELL JENKINS

A SATANIST who set out to kill a vicar with a hunting knife was jailed for life yesterday for a frenzied attack on an 80-year-old woman he left for dead.

Geoffrey Adams, 27, set out to murder the vicar of Risca in Newport because he wanted to punish Christians for their ability to forgive. Adams had been physically abused as a child and thought it was wrong that the man who abused him should be forgiven.

Dressed in black and wearing surgical gloves, Adams set out at about midnight for the vicarage. On the way he stumbled into Maisie Downs, 80, who was walking her neighbour's dogs. She lost the sight in one eye after he repeatedly slashed her face.

He then went on to the vicarage, but the Rev Richard Pain, vicar of Risca, and his wife refused to let Adams in and called the police who disarmed him, thwarting his intention of taking a hostage and forcing police marksmen to shoot him.

Adams, of Risca, told police that he wanted to "take some-

one out and make my mark on the community". He wanted to be killed by police as he believed he could not commit suicide because his soul was damned.

Mr Pain said last night that the case highlighted the vulnerability of vicars who live "over the shop" with their families. However, he described the problem as inevitable and pledged to remain accessible to his parishioners.

Earlier Cardiff Crown Court was told that Adams became a devil worshipper when he shared a prison cell with a man described as a high priest of Satanism. He developed a deep-seated hatred of Christians. Mark Lewis, for the prosecution, said: "He told a psychiatrist that he was sick of the way Christians forgave others. Satanism, he said, never forgave. He became hell-bent on taking the vicar's life."

On the night of the attack Adams was spotted climbing out of his bedroom window so as not to wake his mother. He confronted Mrs Downs in the street. Mr Lewis said: "He struck out with the knife in a



The Rev Richard Pain and his wife, Julie, at their vicarage yesterday. Mr Pain pledged to remain accessible

frenzy. He was slashing her face and head and she raised her arms in a vain attempt to protect herself. She lost count of the number of blows he rained down upon her."

Adams ran off leaving Mrs Downs in a pool of blood. He headed for the vicarage where Mr Pain lived with his wife,

Juliet, and three children. The vicar had gone to bed and his wife refused to open the door despite Adams's pleas that he was depressed and in desperate need of spiritual help. He began to kick the door and Mrs Pain called the police.

When two officers arrived minutes later, they saw Ad-

ams holding a knife behind his back. Adams shouted: "I've got a knife. I've already murdered someone and I'll have you too."

Mr Lewis said: "Adams immediately lunged at the officers, stabbing them before being disarmed. As soon as he dropped the knife he fell to the

ground whimpering and begging for mercy. He was saying: 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry.'"

Adams pleaded guilty at 10 to causing grievous bodily harm to Mrs Downs and attempting to harm Mr Pain. He also admitted wounding a police constable and possessing an offensive weapon.

Geoffrey Adams, who wanted police to shoot him

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Taxi drives to Germany for fare day's work

By PAUL WILKINSON

A GANG of builders from the North East who missed their plane to work in Germany stumped up £600 for a taxi to take them the 750 miles.

In the spirit of the TV series *Auf Wiedersehen Pet*, the six workers from Hartlepool and Jarrow were to be employed stripping asbestos from an old factory in Dusseldorf and had met up at Peterlee for the journey. When they realised they had missed their plane they turned to the office of Phillips Taxis in a back street.

Mick Lister, the proprietor, said: "When these lads came in and asked for a car to Dusseldorf, I told them, 'Pull the other one'. But when they produced a great big bundle of cash I knew they must be serious."

Mark Chisholm, one of the Phillips drivers, volunteered for the trip. Mr Lister said: "They took a Nissan Serena with all their luggage piled up in a trailer. They went down to Dover and took the ferry over to Calais. Then they went through France, Belgium and finally stopped in Germany."

"Mark had an overnight stay in bed and breakfast and then made his way back. He completed the job in 48 hours because that way we got the ferry crossing for £44 in a cut-price deal."

Mr Chisholm added: "The North East isn't the best place to find work and when these lads got the chance they weren't going to be stopped."

US parcel may be clue to Kent murders

DETECTIVES hunting the killer of a mother and daughter in a Kentish cornfield are examining a mysterious parcel sent to them by police in the United States.

The anonymous package, containing press cuttings on the case and shopping receipts, was sent to New York state police on July 15, six days after the murders of Lin Russell, 45, and her daughter Megan, 6. It had a Sussex coast postmark.

Detectives are baffled by the parcel and its contents and by whom it was sent but say they are keeping an open mind about it. Police said yesterday: "We do not know at this stage how significant the parcel is. We were informed by colleagues in America about the parcel who told us what it contained. But it is too early to say whether it was sent by the killer or someone else."

Mrs Russell, Megan and one of their dogs, Lucy, were killed with a hammer-like weapon. Mrs Russell's nine-year-old daughter Josie, who was also attacked, is making a good recovery.

Yesterday *The Sun* offered a £20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer who attacked the family near their home village of Chilenden, near Canterbury, while they walked home from school across the fields.

In an appeal for help in solving the murders, the dead woman's husband, Dr Shaun Russell, 45, who is a lecturer at Kent University, said: "It's vital we catch whoever did this."

Massage 'is best cure for migraine'

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

MOST migraine headaches are caused by damaged neck muscles, not stress, diet or hormonal changes, an expert said yesterday.

Many of the six million sufferers in Britain would find immediate relief from a migraine attack, which can last from four to 72 hours, with a neck massage. In the long term, they should improve their posture and do exercises to relieve pressure on the nerves supplying the head.

Dr Alex Valori, who runs the migraine clinic at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital in Norwich, said that pain caused by migraine was no different from pain in other parts of the body. "It is an irritation of the upper neck nerve roots," he said.

Dr Valori, who based his findings on three years of clinical experience treating 200 patients, told the Migraine Trust International Symposium in London yesterday that he looked for areas of tenderness in the neck that could be eased by manipulation or injection of an anti-inflammatory drug into the upper vertebrae.

If a patient has a pain in the hand which is not arthritis, the nerves are investigated in the arm and shoulder. We chase it like an electrical circuit. It is possible to look at

territories of pain on an anatomical basis, like a jigsaw. Although migraine has been recognised for 3,500 years, its cause remains a mystery. Many factors are believed to trigger the attacks, including foods such as chocolate and red wine, menstruation-related hormonal changes in women and stress.

Dr Valori, who admitted that his theory was controversial, said the key to many cases of migraine appeared to be the trigeminal nerves that supplied the face and the cerebral lining of the brain. "This is not quackery, it is an extension of a conventional view about the management of pain. I am not saying it works for everybody but there is a huge group it can help."

Stress, diet and hormonal changes could all contribute to the development of a migraine by increasing tension in the neck muscles, but these were secondary causes, he said.

"People have shown the blood vessels in the head, expanding and contracting during a migraine but these are under the influence of the trigeminal nerve."

Dr Valori, who also practises as a GP in Norfolk, said he hoped to publish the results of his work but carrying out controlled trials in pain was difficult.

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British Association: President says drive for financial efficiency will kill golden goose of creativity

Inventive research 'is being stifled by ignorant managers'

REPORTS BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR, AND NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

UNIVERSITY research is in danger of being stripped of its originality and spontaneity by ignorant and insensitive attempts to manage it, the President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science warned at its annual meeting in Birmingham yesterday.

Sir Ronald Oxburgh, rector of the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, said that the pressure on academic staff to do research — whether or not they were any good at it — and the drive to make research accountable were threatening creativity. "Second-rate university research done to order, by people who have no real aptitude or enthusiasm for it, is a waste of time, money and paper," he said. But the methods used by the funding councils to assess universities was driving them towards a system in which there was



Sir Ronald: said culture of research was delicate

"undesirable and unacceptable" pressure on every academic to do research. Those who do not want to do research, or are not very good at it, were in danger of being regarded as failures, he said.

He said the over-management of research by a Government intent on efficiency ran

the risk of changing the character of the work and losing its greatest strength — its spontaneity. "Ultimately the best university research can bring insights and discoveries in areas that were previously unsuspected and which would not have been the choice of panels of experts, however carefully selected," Sir Ronald said. "The researchers will follow the money and if it is clear that money is available only for those who complete well-defined projects to time, that is exactly what will happen: the work will become thoroughly competent, and thoroughly predictable. That would be a major loss."

"We must trust some of our most gifted research workers to work on what they see as most promising and to justify their decisions retrospectively when the work is done. Even the best foresight panel in the world is going to be unlikely to identify the one coming in from left field, the unexpected: penicillin or BSE," he said.

"Look at the laser, for example. When it was invented people sat around and said, 'Is there ever going to be a conceivable application of this curious phenomenon? Who cares about coherent beams of light?'"

Sir Ronald said the university system was efficient in producing trained people and in carrying out research. A recent study by the President of the Japanese Institute for Physical and Chemical Research had concluded that, in certain fields, including physics, Britain was twice as cost-effective as other major countries. In addition, he said, Britain produced as many trained research workers with PhDs as the US, with a population one fifth as large and only one tenth as much spent on research.

"Our university research culture is delicate," he concluded. "Ignorant and insensitive attempts to manage it as if it were part of industry would probably kill the goose that is still laying golden eggs."



Raising money: Katharine Willson, of the Magnetic Penny Society, with a pyramid of magnetically levitated pennies at the science festival yesterday. The system, developed by Nabeel Shirazee for Magnetic Suspensions Ltd, uses powerful permanent magnets supplemented by electromagnets controlled by electronic circuits. The movement of the levitated mass is

tracked and the current constantly adjusted to correct any movement, a system that means large masses can be levitated with very modest currents. Barry Jones, managing director of the company, which is based in the Isle of Man, says that among the first products will be a geographical globe for an American company. In industry the system could be used for

painting objects automatically and all over in one pass. Plane-makers could use it to support model aircraft in wind tunnels. The display at Birmingham was put on with the Magic Penny Society, which raises money for cancer care. Professor Robin Willson, the society's organiser, said the applications of the principle were limited only by the imagination.

Short-term stress can be good for you

SHORT periods of stress can lunge up the immune system, the science festival was told yesterday. A challenging task at work or just playing a computer game can cause the effect, according to Professor Phil Evans of the University of Westminster.

With colleagues at Birmingham University, he has shown that secretion of immunoglobulin A, a measure of the state of the immune system, increases after challenging sessions of the computer game Doom.

The traditional view has been that stress depresses the immune system, but for short periods this is not true, Professor Evans says. Studies by other researchers have confirmed the effect, showing, for example, that the immune system of air-traffic controllers was stimulated at work. The effect, he believes, is

caused by the "fight or flight" response of the hormone system to stress.

"Most of us nowadays seldom encounter wild animals on the savannah, but the same physiological systems are to a degree triggered by simple laboratory stressors such as being asked to do mental arithmetic, make a speech, or play a computer game," he said.

Chronic long-term stress may have different effects, however. Students facing exams have been shown to suffer more colds and have lowered immune function.

He added: "We must avoid exaggerating or even inventing harmful consequences of everyday stressors, but remain alive to the possibility that severe and chronic stress may well have more serious effects on both the immune system and physical health."



Dr Cantrill with 100 million-year-old fern fossils

When Antarctica was a verdant garden

VAST forests and rivers covered Antarctica 100 million years ago, scientists have discovered.

Researchers with the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge believe the climate was similar to modern Britain's. The findings, from leaf and wood fossils unearthed over hundreds of square miles on the peninsula, give clues as to how Antarctica might look in a few hundred years, should pollution accelerate the greenhouse effect. The findings were presented at the British Association's annual meeting.

Dr David Cantrill, of the

survey, said yesterday that Antarctica had been a verdant place of forests and ferns in which, in addition, dinosaurs lived, and probably small mammals. "It was quite a nice Garden of Eden. The conditions are not ideal for preserving dinosaur remains but one has been found."

Antarctica had been part of a super-continent called Gondwana, which had begun breaking up, producing today's continents. Its weather system had not yet been cut off from warm water from the Equator, Dr Cantrill said.

Roads claim up to 60m birds a year

AS MANY as a fifth of some bird species are killed on the roads each year, the association was told.

Chris Mead, of the British Ecological Society, said that studies in Britain and abroad indicated that up to 60 million birds, including chaffinches, white-throats, blackbirds, little owls and barn owls, have been killed on roads each year.

He said that 100 British species dominated the list, many of which fed or nested in hedges near roads. Birds were most at risk on suburban roads and A roads rather than dual carriageways or motorways because these were too wide or too noisy to cross.

Mr Mead said that speed was as much to blame as the volume of traffic. "We are cruising over the crucial level of 45 to 50mph, the speeds at which you rarely kill a bird."

A study in Norfolk found that of 48 barn owls, nine were killed on the roads after six

months. Forty per cent of young swallows and 5 per cent of adults die on the roads, Mr Mead said that surveys of other species, including house sparrows, whose numbers have fallen by a third in the past 30 years, showed a similar death rate on the roads.

"It's inevitable that populations will go down," he said. "White-throats go from one hedge to another across a road as do chaffinches. Blackbirds are appalling. One male blackbird sees another, they fly low and are both wiped out." Mr Mead called for stricter speed limits and traffic calming on country A roads in vulnerable areas.

Studies from The Netherlands also showed that too many roads in an area caused animals to in-breed. Populations of frogs, separated by roads and unable to cross them to breed, became more vulnerable to disease after several generations.

Asians give up corner shops

The Asian corner shop, robust repository of Thatcherite values, could soon close due to a lack of interest from the next generation.

Few Asian shopkeepers want their children to carry on the business, aiming them instead at professions such as law, medicine and accountancy. It seems that in a single generation the British disdain for trade has infected these entrepreneurs, according to a survey by the Policy Studies Institute.

Dr Tariq Modood of the PSI suggested the Asians had used small businesses as a way of ensuring their children got a good education.

Success with Aids vaccine

A new vaccine against Aids has shown promising results in animal trials. Seven macaque monkeys treated with the vaccine showed evidence that they had been protected against infection with HIV, the monkey equivalent of HIV, the Aids virus.

In four of the animals the protection was total, in the others it was 90 per cent. Professor Thomas Lehner of Guy's and St Thomas's hospitals told the meeting. The indications were that protection would last for six months or so, he said. It could be tried in human volunteers. "All parts of the vaccine have been tested and lack toxicity."

Drug to fight septic shock

A drug that inhibits the production of nitric oxide in the body could save thousands of lives every year, Professor Salvador Moncada of University College London told the meeting.

The drug, being developed by Glaxo Wellcome, would treat septic shock, which often follows hospital treatment. About 200,000 cases a year are recorded, of which half prove fatal. During septic shock the body mobilises nitric oxide, a gas found in car exhausts, to fight infection, but in so doing raises the blood pressure, complicating treatment. The drug lowers the pressure.

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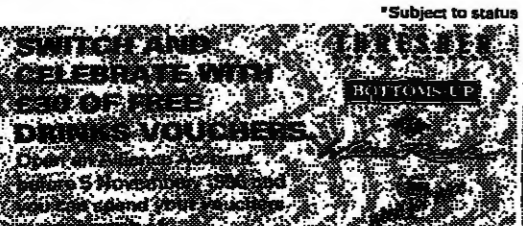
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Physically chastising a child may cause harm far worse than bruises

THE 12-year-old boy who was yesterday given approval to go to the European Commission of Human Rights because, he claims, the Government failed to protect him from his stick-waving stepfather is likely to receive mixed support from those who were educated in the prewar private system.

In 1994 a court was told that the boy's buttocks, thighs and calves were black and blue after he was beaten: par for the course so far as all those who were educated at expensive schools before the educational revolution started about 30 years ago. The fact that bruising was so commonly inflicted does not mean that it was either character building or physically harmless. The slap or even spontaneous spank of a parent should never be confused with a ritualistic beating with a stick. I have met many patients whose psyche seems to have been harmed by the punishment inflicted at school but



Dr Thomas Stuttford

the most tragic case I have come across was one where the damage was physical.

Seldom, as Henry Hamilton Bailey, author of *Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery*, said, does nature call attention to a deep-seated abnormality by changes in the skin, but in the lower back it sometimes does. In some cases of spina bifida occulta the evidence that there is an abnormality of the spine can be spotted by a quick look at the back, because the deformity is betrayed by a patch of hair over the lower back, or a dimple in the skin. In spina bifida occulta the bony covering of

the spinal cord is incomplete as the vertebral arteries have failed to unite.

Mr Hamilton Bailey's teaching was brought home to me a year or two ago when I was asked to see a middle-aged man whose life had been ravaged by various psychological disasters. The patient told me that he had been a normal cheerful prep-school boy until his headmaster, whose aim was unsure, beat him. One savage stroke of the cane fell across the small of his back rather than on his bottom and thereafter my patient was incontinent. All my patient's personality

problems started from this time as his contemporaries were shocked that he was such a wimp that he started bedwetting after being beaten. He was rejected by the pack at his public school and left early. Thereafter his life followed a downhill path.

The man was a perfect example of what Mr Hamilton Bailey had described: nature had signalled that he had a disability of his spinal column. My patient had a patch of thick hair, as thick as that on a child's scalp, easily visible over his lower back, a sure sign of a spina bifida occulta and therefore of an only partially protected spinal cord.

The savage, casual, ill-directed swipe with the headmaster's cane had damaged the cord and given the boy a weak urinary and anal sphincter. His subsequent incontinence had rendered him the butt of every bully for the rest of his life.

Soldiers return in peace to Zulu site

THE British Army has been welcomed back to Rorke's Drift, where 153 Britons fought hand to hand with 4,500 Zulus in 1879. British soldiers have helped to construct a community hall near the site of the battle in KwaZulu/Natal.

Moses Zulu, principal of the Shiyane Secondary School where the hall was built, said: "Ever since the battles of Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana, we have had enormous respect for the brave soldiers of the British Army. Now we have worked closely together to build a wonderful facility for all of our Zulu people. We owe these young men and women a great deal."

Army cadets from Southampton University, who raised more than £50,000



Captain Rob Dickinson points to the community hall at the Rorke's Drift site

towards the cost of building the community hall, were supported by men from the Royal Engineers and The Royal Regiment of Wales.

One of the patrons of Project Scholastic Acorn was Brigadier David Bromhead, Colonel of the Welsh regiment, whose grandfather,

Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead — portrayed by Michael Caine in the 1964 film *Zulu* — played a key role building a defensive perimeter around the African missionary station before the attack by thousands of Zulus. He was one of 11 men to receive the VC out of the 153

British troops that withstood the ferocious Zulu attacks. Captain Rob Dickinson of the regiment, said: "Those men were plain soldiers, facing almost certain death but by their actions they have come to represent everything that is good about being a British soldier."

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Proposed Millennium Tower could become tallest building in Europe

Foster unveils crowning glory for London skyline

By Marcus Binney

Sir Norman Foster unveiled plans yesterday for a 1,265 ft snow-white, transparent London skyscraper. The £400 million, 92-storey London Millennium Tower would be the tallest building in Europe and top the Empire State Building.

The curving, highly sculptural form ushers in a new era in skyscraper design and makes towers under construction in South-East Asia appear old-fashioned. The most remarkable feature of the Foster design is its sheer transparency, with views in and out of the tower through floor-to-ceiling glass uninterrupted by columns of lift cores or heavy steel frame.

No less revolutionary is the range of mixed uses proposed for the tower, with shops, restaurants, offices, trading floors, gardens in the sky and a public viewing platform at 1,000 ft. Above that will be 12 storeys of penthouses enclosed in two glass husks.

Sir Norman said: "The city of the future will be a much richer mix of uses. Not ghettos of offices or housing. Working and living in the sky will be great attractions."

The building takes the form of a gently rounded letter V, with walls continuously on the curve, a giant version of Sir Norman's Willis Faber building in Ipswich. "I did not want

to make yet another four-square imposition on the skyline but wanted to create a much more free-flowing design," he said.

The plans have been commissioned by Trafalgar House, whose chairman, Alan Winter, said: "We hope to get planning permission in the spring and to complete construction in four years, topping out in 2000. We are in discussions with potential anchor tenants who must be on board if we are to proceed."

Peter Rees, the City's planning officer, said: "We will judge the building on its merits. We have asked for photomontages showing the tower from numerous viewpoints all over London."

The Government is expected soon to issue new guidelines for high buildings in London, but the proposed tower, on the site of the bomb-damaged Baltic Exchange, is outside the main protected views - St Paul's Cathedral from the river, Greenwich, Hampstead and Richmond. English Heritage gave permission for an earlier scheme that would have reconstructed the marble-lined hall of the old exchange but was unhappy with the building above.

Sir Norman said he respected the much lower building heights that prevailed to the



Foster: wanted to create a free-flowing design

west of the City but believed it was acceptable to add to the cluster of high buildings around the NatWest Tower.

The City Corporation is likely to welcome becoming home to Europe's most prominent building and Sir Norman's design may even, like the Lloyd's building by Sir Richard Rogers, escape a public inquiry. However, the Civil Aviation Authority says the building would have "operational implications for London City Airport and London Heathrow and as such we

would advise against it."

Clean, the City of London environment group, expressed concern about security and environmental considerations. "The new tower will inevitably be a target for bombers, potentially showering glass over a wide area," it said.

The engineer who worked on the design, Tony Fitzpatrick of Ove Arup, said: "Our principal problem is sway in high winds. This is particularly sensitive with residents at the top of the building. We will limit this by inserting a 600-ton pendulum near the top."

"This is a steel-frame structure but you won't be able to see what holds it up. The columns around the perimeter are very slender and 15 ft apart. We have avoided the usual massive concrete lift cores. Lift shafts are no more than holes in the floor."

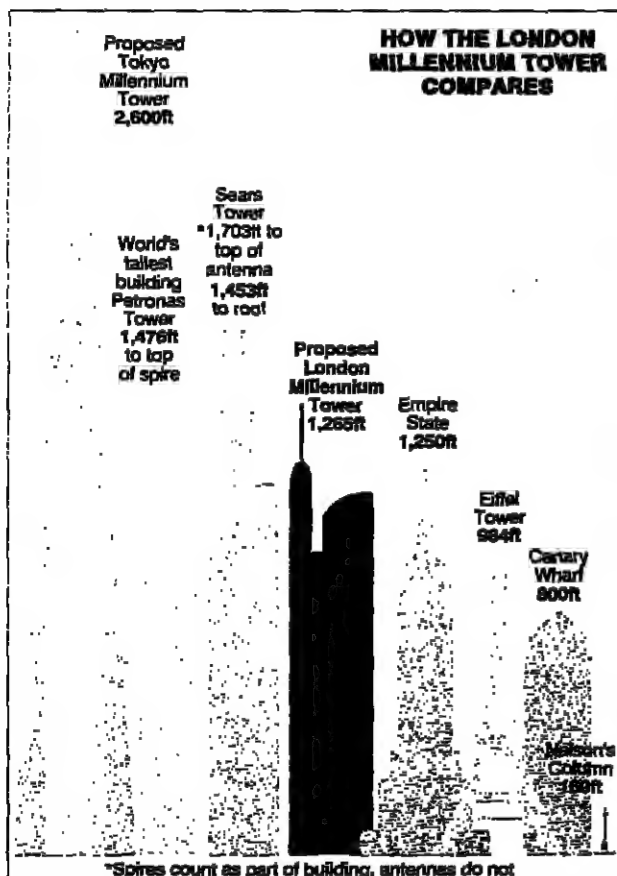
To combat overheating, the architects have designed two skins of glass, well separated so that cooling air will constantly be drawn upwards.

Like Sir Norman's Hong-kong and Shanghai Tower in Hong Kong, his London tower could usher in a new era. The question is whether costs will rise to an equally record height. Sir Norman insists: "It can be built on time and on budget."

Anatole Kaletsky, page 18

Race to realise the mile-high dream

By Marcus Binney



THE race to build the world's tallest building looks set to move to Europe, shifting the focus from South-East Asia, where six of the world's tallest towers are under construction.

In 1985 America had the world's ten tallest buildings but, according to recent estimates, only ten buildings of more than 20 storeys are currently under construction in the US.

Some of the buildings have been very short-lived titleholders, most notably the Chrysler building in Manhattan, quickly eclipsed by the Empire State Building. Until recently, the 1,454 ft Sears Tower in Chicago had held the title for 21 years.

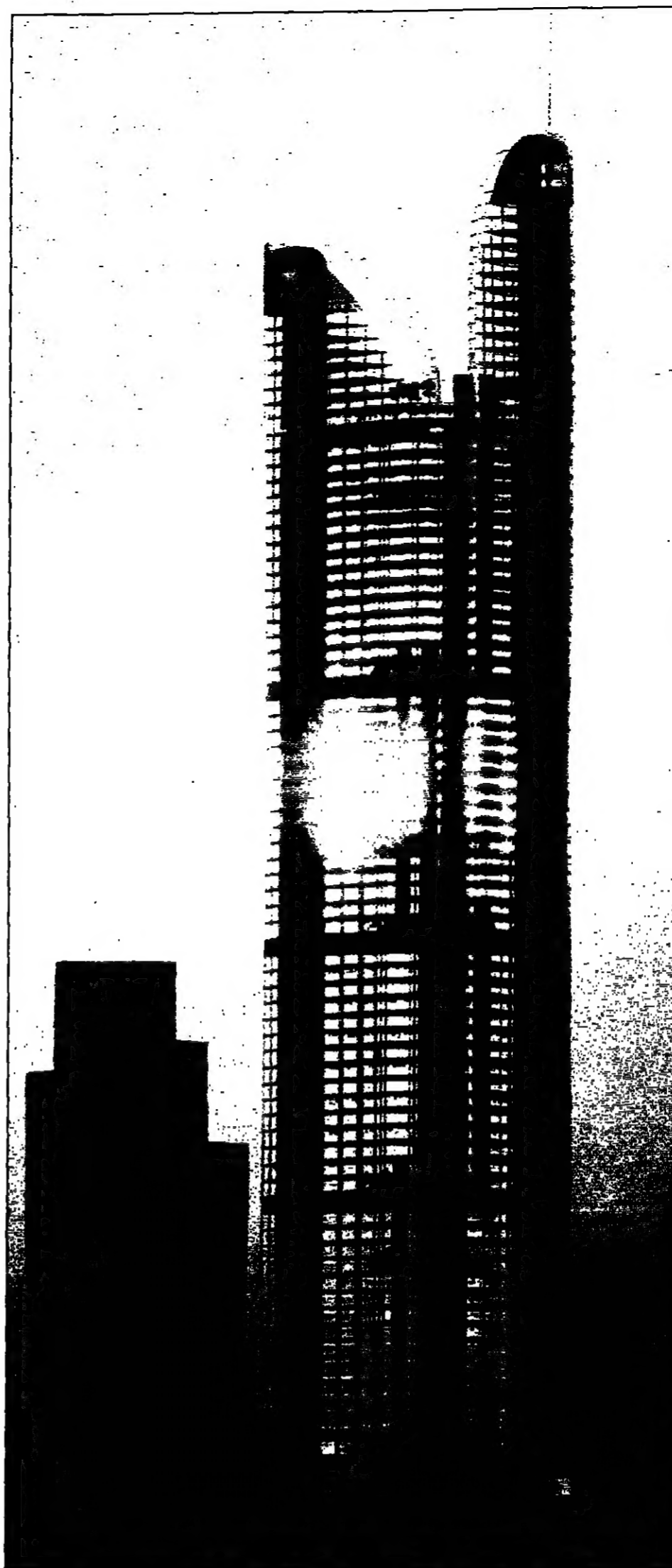
Europe's prime contender for high-rise glory was the proposed Tour Sans Fin, in Paris, designed by architectural superstar Jean Nouvel and intended to rise 1,377 feet. This has been indefinitely postponed and the title has been taken by the Commerz Bank in Frankfurt, topped out last month and also designed by Sir Norman Foster.

The title for the world's

tallest building is now being taken by the twin Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, designed by the Argentinian-born Cesar Pelli, who is also architect of the 800 ft tower at Canary Wharf. The Petronas Towers will be overtaken in turn by the 108-storey Kowloon Nina Tower, currently under construction in Hong Kong. The tower is being built by Nina Wang, one of the world's richest women, in honour of her husband, kidnapped five years ago and still missing. The precise height of the building is being kept a secret in case others seek to pip it by a few feet.

The Nina Tower is likely to be beaten in turn by the 114-storey, 1,500 ft Chong Qing tower in China, currently under construction, which is to have a hotel above the clouds.

Tallest of all is Foster's planned 2,600 ft Millennium Tower, designed for Tokyo Bay but yet to receive the go-ahead. In the world of dreams, Frank Lloyd Wright's mile-high tower still remains unbeaten.



A computer-generated image of Sir Norman Foster's proposed London Millennium Tower dwarfs the existing NatWest Tower

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tom and Jodi almost certainly drowned

Tom and Jodi Loughlin, the brother and sister whose bodies were found two weeks after they went missing from a Norfolk beach during a family holiday, almost certainly drowned, a coroner said yesterday.

Tom, 4, and Jodi, 6, were at the start of their holiday at Holme next the Sea with their parents, Kevin Loughlin and Lynette Thornton, when they disappeared on August 18. Norwich district coroner, William Armstrong, opening the inquest, said a post-mortem examination showed that the probable cause of both deaths had been submersion in water.

Activists jailed

Two animal rights activists were jailed after admitting conspiring to set fire to an abattoir in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, in June. Michael Green and Melanie Arnold, both 27, left devices in lorries and buildings. Green was jailed for five years, Arnold for 3½.

Murder charge

A man has been charged with the murder of Gertrude Gray, 71, 16 years after she was stabbed to death with a knife at her home in Bradford. Robert Barraclough, 31, who was 15 at the time of the incident in February, 1980, was remanded in custody for four weeks.

Asbestos fine

A cloud of asbestos dust was created when workmen drilled through a ceiling at a school in Bedford, near Bedford, magistrates at Biggleswade heard yesterday. Bedford County Council was fined £1,500 for causing a health hazard. No children were put at risk.

Contract lined up

The bus company Stagecoach has been named as the front-runner to take over the eight-mile Isle of Wight railway line. The service, which runs from Ryde Pier to Shanklin, using old London Underground trains, is the smallest line to be sold off under rail privatisation.

'Doone' inn sale

The inn on Exmoor where R.D. Blackmore wrote *Lorna Doone* is being sold. The author stayed at the Royal Oak Inn at Withypool when he came to the area in 1866 to research his work. The pub and a two-bedroom cottage are on sale for £695,000.

Award for boy

Benjamin Marks, left brain damaged after Watford General Hospital failed to monitor his condition before his delivery in 1992, was awarded £15 million damages at the High Court. South West Hertfordshire Health Authority admitted negligence.

Painting prize

John Hubbard, whose most recent landscapes are inspired by the craggy west coast of Scotland, last night won the £30,000 Jerwood painting prize. He beat six other finalists, including Anthony Green and John McLean.

Price on pier

Hastings Pier, in East Sussex, is for sale for £3 million. The quarter-mile-long pier, built in 1872, has shops, a ballroom, bingo hall and amusement arcades. The pier is for sale because the present owner cannot afford to carry out restoration work.

Exhibit's bananas

An exhibit made of banana skins is to go on show at a gallery at Nottingham Trent University. Shelley Sack, a lecturer, stitched together 3,000 dried skins. Her taped interviews with the farmers who grew the fruit will play beside the exhibit.

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The honeymoon with hidden extras

By Harvey Elliott, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

HONEYMOON couples who book a one-bedroom apartment may find they have to pay double to ensure they have the place to themselves. Although Spanish hotel rooms and apartments must be of a minimum size, there is no law that specifies how many people should be in each room. As a result the number of people some tour operators expect to fill a room or apartment is often unrealistic. *Holiday Which?* says.

The magazine says: "If you travel with the tour operator Inspirations to the Port d'Alcudia apartments - recommended for honeymoons because it guarantees 'peace, seclusion and privacy' - you'll pay £447 each for two weeks in August. But add £540 to the bill if you're not prepared to share your one-bedroom apartment."

Holiday Which?, published by the Consumers' Association, said children

did not count towards the occupancy of a room - especially those on free or discounted child places. So a family of four booking a one-bedroom apartment that sleeps four adults would pay two adult fares, two child fares and two under-occupancy supplements. "It may be cheaper to count one or all of your children as adults and avoid under-occupancy charges," the magazine advises.

Holiday companies last night rejected the criticisms. "They are completely confused about how apartment holidays work," said Alan Flook of the Federation of Tour Operators. "If you rent a villa it costs X pounds whether there is one person in it or ten. It is the same for an apartment."

Inspirations said that its brochure clearly stated the number of people required to share the apartment at the price quoted.

Head jailed for indecent assault

By John O'Leary, EDUCATION EDITOR

A HEADMASTER convicted of molesting boarders at a boys' school was jailed for three years yesterday.

Robert Hay, 42, appeared for sentence at Bristol Crown Court after being convicted in July on seven charges of indecent assault. The incidents involved six boys aged nine to 12 at the school in Devon, between August 1992 and June last year.

The jury had heard how Hay, a married father of two, visited the boys' dormitories after lights out and touched them as they lay in bed. The school cannot be named for legal reasons.

Judge Bursell said there had been a breach of trust by Hay, after children had been placed in his care and security. He added that there had been no question of seduction or violence, that Hay was a man of previously exemplary character and that there was no evidence yet of trauma among the victims but, he added,

"these matters are so serious a non-custodial sentence cannot be justified."

The boys gave evidence by video link, and one, nine at the time of an assault in 1992, told of how he had been "too scared to move" and had "frozen with fright" after Hay pulled down his duvet and touched his genitals. Another pupil, 12 at the time of an assault in 1995, had rung Childline for advice.

Hay, who resigned from his post last summer, insisted throughout the trial that he had done nothing indecent and had no idea why the boys had made such allegations. He claimed he was adjusting their bed clothes. Ian Pringle, for the defence, said yesterday that physically the offences were at the lower end of the scale of indecent assaults.

After the sentencing, a parent of one of the boys said: "We are desperately worried about the long-term damage a man like this could have done to our sons."

Spear-wielding Kurds take a stab at angling

By Russell Jenkins

ANGLERS on the River Lea in north London were astonished when they spotted Kurds spearing fish and barbecuing their catches on a riverbank spit. Now they say that the refugees from Saddam Hussein's regime represent a menace to their sport.

They have complained to bailiffs that the niceties of freshwater fishing - keeping fish in nets, weighing them and releasing them unharmed - are lost on the Kurds, who, armed with spears or wooden sticks and springs,

on the spot. Perch have been spotted roasting over an open fire at Tottenham lock, and the Lea Anglers Consortium fears the Kurds will extend their menu to include other, carefully husbanded fish. Recently, carp were introduced into the river to supplement the indigenous bream, roach, perch, dace and pike.

Terry Mansbridge, consortium coordinator, realises the Kurds have something other than sport on their minds. "It is called survival and is perfectly understandable," he said. "Meanwhile, we sit on the bank for

when we do, we throw them back. It seems daft but it is the British way. It is a sport and we keep the fish alive to cause little distress. The Kurds stick a pole through them and roast them on spits. That is distressing."

Several years ago, consortium members asked bailiffs to stop Chinese youths turning the river into a take-away. They have also had to put up with an invasion of Chinese mitten crabs, introduced in the 1930s by ships from the Far East emptying their bilges in the Thames.

Dave Coster, of the Tottenham

not very amused to see their fish eaten on the bank. They are just as displeased to catch mitten crabs. They come as big as a man's fist."

Anglers have clashed with a family which owns a Vietnamese restaurant and was trawling for larger than average fish in waters warmed by the hot-water outlets of Dungeness power station in Kent. Police were called to the dispute between the family of two adults and three children in a boat and rod anglers on a nearby beach who were fed up with them hauling in large catches. Fishery inspectors confiscated

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GIs manoeuvre for hooch and dirty dancing to fight the blues

THE morale of American GIs in Bosnia, packing to go home but uncertain of their future, has hit a low point. Tales of sex for sale, alcohol stills and incompetent officers have emerged from the barracks and into the public domain, as chronicled in the letters column of *Stars and Stripes*, the American forces' daily newspaper.

Rarely has an army in the field aired its grievances so comprehensively. Seldom, too, have reporters of an army newspaper been so willing to risk arguments with senior officers in writing about the daily realities of a battlefield unit.

In the summer, the paper reported the discovery of a still in Olovsko Lake which made potato moonshine. Alcohol consumption has been banned on base in

The US Army's newspaper is breaking rank with stories of how sex and illicit alcohol are helping to ease the boredom for the troops in Bosnia. Roger Boyes reports

Operation Joint Endeavour — the American name for the Bosnian peacekeeping mission — but, as the paper pointed out, there are a number of ways of getting drunk. Seven soldiers have been cashiered, and scores have been punished by having pay docked or being reduced in rank. Alcohol is sent through the post, is bought from peacekeeping units from other nations, or comes through Bosnian go-betweens. US soldiers on patrol often

defy standing regulations by stopping off at Bosnian shops to stock up on beer.

An army sergeant, quoted by the newspaper, edited in Darmstadt, said: "I drink here — I admit it. I'm insulted by rules that allow me to die for my country but won't allow me to have a beer. The military treats us like five-year-olds."

One letter-writer to the paper, Sergeant John Bailey, says: "I hear of many soldiers, non-commissioned officers and

officers — yes, I said officers, our so-called leaders — who drink."

Such open protests would be regarded as insubordination in the British Army. But the team editing *Stars and Stripes* is seeking to establish the paper as more than a puppet of the high command and as a genuine voice of ordinary soldiers. The letters also help to ease the strain of a highly political and sometimes physically dangerous deployment.

But articles this summer about the way US soldiers circumvent the rules against fraternisation with Bosnian women have raised questions about how open a modern army can be regarding morale. The general impression is that US soldiers are leading a lifestyle reminiscent

of *M.A.S.H.*, the television series about a chaotic army medical unit in Korea.

There are stories about affairs between married soldiers, brothels and pick-up joints. Seventy women soldiers have been sent home because of unexpected pregnancies. The *Taszar Tavern* is described in the paper as a place to find "mini-skirts, tight jeans, muscle shirts, pairs bumping and grinding and dirty dancing that would make Patrick Swayze blush".

The article drew an irate response from Lieutenant-Colonel Oscar Anderson from Camp Linda in Bosnia. "Your story," he says, "sounds as if the military chain of command condones illicit wanton sex among the ranks. I don't." He adds: "Our PX [army store] does not sell prophylac-

tics; it tried to but I had them taken off the shelf. However, I don't go around with my head in the sand. Prophylactics are issued by the aid station to anyone going out on a pass or Rest and Recreation if they ask for them."

The real problem is that an editorial policy, partly designed to ease battlefield tension, is actually causing family problems. On American army bases, wives of soldiers stationed in Bosnia have been reading about the availability of condoms and drawing their own conclusions. "It is hard enough being separated without having to read articles like these," writes a Family Support organiser from Wiesbaden in Germany. "The last six months of a deployment are the hardest."

London talks planned to bolster peace in Balkans

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN plans to host a summit of Balkan leaders and the foreign ministers of the big powers in an attempt to maintain peace in the region after this weekend's fraught elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The meeting in early December, which is not expected to be announced formally until after Parliament reconvenes next month, will be seen as Dayton Two, diplomatic sources said yesterday. It will seek fresh commitments to peace from Presidents Milosevic of Serbia, Izetbegovic of Bosnia, and Tudjman of Croatia. The two-day gathering will probably take place after a meeting of Nato foreign ministers in the first week of December, at which the alliance is expected to agree that some troops should remain in Bosnia next year to reinforce the peace process.

The summit plans emerged as Yugoslavia and Croatia formally established diplomatic relations yesterday. The move, seen in America as crucial to peace in the Balkans, will nevertheless be viewed with suspicion by the Muslim-led Bosnian Government. The Sarajevo administration fears that Serbia and Croatia have done a secret deal to carve up what remains of Bosnia between them.

Last November's Dayton peace agreement ended the fighting but has done little to consolidate peace. Elections on Saturday in Bosnia are beset by problems and seen as flawed even by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which is organising the poll.

Municipal elections have been postponed and political structures, set out in the Dayton accord, are fragile.

particularly the Muslim-Croat Federation, a pillar of the planned federal state. There are also problems affecting freedom of movement, the return of refugees and economic reconstruction. Carl Bildt, the international peace co-ordinator, said in Sarajevo yesterday that a refusal by nationalists to share power after Saturday's elections would mean a new war. "If we don't implement the constitution, we are lost, and so is peace."

Mr Bildt also said that international peace troops would be needed in Bosnia for another year after the mandate of the 53,000-strong Nato-led Implementation Force runs out in December. "The follow-on force must be a deterrent force against anyone contemplating a [renewed] military option in Bosnia. It will be a vital part of creating a climate of confidence to make the constitution work."

Diplomats said the London summit was not supposed to produce another treaty, but was aimed at getting the main protagonists to stick to their commitments. Western allies, including America, have privately accepted the need for a continued military presence in Bosnia next year.

Foreign ministers of the European Union, meeting in Ireland at the weekend, endorsed the idea of a two-year civilian "peace consolidation" programme in Bosnia, an idea first proposed by France. It Belgrade Yugoslav border authorities prevented Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the Russian ultranationalist leader, from crossing into Bosnia yesterday. Serbian nationalists claimed. He was to tour Serb-held parts of Bosnia. (AP)



Military history enthusiasts from Russia and France re-enacting the battle of Borodino, 60 miles outside Moscow. Napoleon's troops, left, are attacking a regiment of General Mikhail Kutuzov's army. The battle in September 1812 brought heavy Russian losses, forcing a retreat. Moscow was occupied and in flames a week later

Rows throw Paris coalition into disarray

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRANCE'S ruling right-wing coalition was in disarray last night amid personality clashes, internal quarrels and widespread criticism of proposals from Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, for tax cuts and electoral reform.

The divisions were underlined by an early morning meeting between M Juppé and another of his Gaullist movement's leading figures, the former Interior Minister, Charles Pasqua. Barely had the crisscross and coffee been served than M Pasqua walked out, saying: "We had an interview, as they say in diplomatic circles, of great

frankness." His comments after they left the Prime Minister weaker than ever and the ruling coalition facing accusations that it was in the process of committing electoral suicide. Commentators said that unless the majority unites quickly around M Juppé's beleaguered Cabinet, it will lose the 1998 legislative elections, leaving President Chirac to cohabit with a Socialist government.

With its popularity among voters at rock bottom, the Government appears to have been abandoned by its own supporters. Its difficulties are likely to increase the confidence of public sector unions, which are threatening a series

of strikes less than 12 months after they crippled France with the biggest wave of protests since 1968.

In an attempt to head off the unions, M Juppé announced yesterday an end to the civil servants' pay freeze that was designed to ease the public debt. However, last night they seemed set to push ahead with the strikes despite the olive branch.

The rows within the ruling majority have their roots in last year's presidential campaign, when the Right was split by the battle between M Chirac and Edouard Balladur, the former Prime Minister. The wounds have been reopened by M Juppé's inability to get to grips with

France's economic troubles — in particular, its three million unemployment total.

When the Prime Minister announced income tax cuts last week of Fr25 billion (£3 billion), designed to stimulate growth, his "allies" denounced the move as too little, too late. Alain Madelin, who was dismissed as Finance Minister last year, said: "This is not the fiscal shock that was necessary." M Pasqua said: "The road chosen is not the right one."

M Juppé added to his own woes by confronting yesterday that he is considering the introduction of a limited form of proportional representation that would serve to help the extreme right-wing Na-

tional Front and hamper the Socialists. The effect was to worry leading members of the centre-right UDF movement, which the Prime Minister has been trying to court. François Bayrou, the Education Minister and one of the few political heavyweights who had hitherto backed M Juppé, rejected the idea.

Behind these policy differences lie personal ambitions excited by the prospect of M Juppé's political demise. M Balladur, M Pasqua and a series of younger figures, notably the UDF leader, François Léotard, hope to move back into the front of the political scene in the post-Juppé era, which they believe cannot be far off.

NEWS BRIEF

Madrid to receive panda gift

Madrid: There was jubilation in the Spanish capital yesterday after the announcement by the Chinese Government that it would shortly deliver a female giant panda to Madrid zoo (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

The panda, called Ming-Ming, will take the place of the much-loved Chu-Lin, the 13-year-old male who died suddenly of a prostate infection at the end of April. Chu-Lin, the first giant panda to be born in captivity outside China, was the favourite attraction for zoo visitors.

Bodies in freezer

Brussels: A restaurateur and his brother were accused of murdering their wives, allegedly for being unfaithful, after police found the bodies of three women in the freezer of a Lebanese restaurant. (AFP)

Massacre trial

Hobart: Martin Bryant, 29, accused of Australia's Port Arthur massacre, was remanded to appear in the Supreme Court of Tasmania on September 30 to answer 35 charges of murder. (AFP)

Sanctions eased

Nairobi: African countries agreed to ease sanctions against Burundi, imposed after July's military coup, to allow the United Nations to provide some humanitarian aid. (Reuters)

Going, gone...

Los Angeles: A dress worn by Vivien Leigh in *Gone With the Wind* was sold for \$40,250 (£25,960) in an auction of Hollywood mementos and souvenirs that fetched a total of \$317,000. (AFP)

Socialist rule at risk in Greece

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

LESS than two weeks before Greece's parliamentary elections, Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister, is finding the going rougher than expected.

Believed to be an easy winner when he called early elections last month in a gamble on his popularity, he is under threat from an unexpectedly vigorous conservative opposition that could well tip his Socialists out of power on September 22.

Mr Simitis has been forced onto the defensive by Militades Evert, the leader of the free-market Nea Dimokratia. Mr Evert grabbed an early initiative by unveiling a seven-point tax-relief plan for farmers and small businesses, to come from drastic cuts in government and sweeping privatisation. Taken by surprise, the Simitis Government hastily said that it would impose no new taxes over the next four years.

Spain wants Gibraltar deal as prelude to full Nato role

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THE Spanish Government has demanded the phasing out of Gibmed, Nato's command on Gibraltar, as a precondition of Madrid's full integration with the Atlantic alliance by the end of this year.

During an official visit to Spain by Javier Solana, the Nato secretary-general, José María Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, promised yesterday that Spain would be ready for a role within a restructured Nato by the time of the Atlantic Council's next meeting on December 11.

Diplomatic sources indicated that, although Spain "would not concentrate unhelpfully on Gibmed" while the "nuts and bolts" of Madrid's integration into Nato's command structure were being assembled, Spain's precondition "could not be watered down".

Eduardo Serra, the Defence Minister, made it clear that full integration was incompatible with the existence of

Gibmed in its present form. But he said: "I do not expect Britain to oppose the reform, as I believe that Nato's strategic priorities have changed."

Señor Solana, a former Spanish Foreign Minister, appeared to support Madrid's demand. He said: "I will do my best to ensure that Spain's conditions are met. The im-

pression I have is that the conditions for Spanish integration are likely to be achieved." Spanish diplomats and strategists believe the "modification" of Gibmed would be inevitable once a new Mediterranean command, expected to cover the area from Naples to the Strait of Gibraltar, comes into being. Madrid insisted yesterday that this new command be headed by a Spanish general.

Observers say that the fulfilment of Madrid's ambitions would depend on British agreement, given that Gibraltar would fall within the new command. "We have many weeks of hard negotiations ahead," a Spanish defence spokesman conceded.

Spain, which joined the alliance in 1982, has so far refused to be part of Nato's integrated military command. Señor Aznar, committed to a greater Nato role for Spain, now needs to secure parliamentary approval.



Solana: support for Spanish demands

French pupils show distaste for stodgy school dinners

BY ADAM SAGE

CONTEMPT for Anglo-Saxon culture has failed to prevent France from importing one of Britain's least-cherished traditions: the inedible school meal.

Once home to the culinary excellence for which the French are known, the country's school canteens have fallen prey to the British disease of cold, rubbery meat and waterlogged vegetables.

According to a recent report by the National Education General Inspectorate, "more and more pupils do not eat at school", preferring to return

food restaurant. In Vanves, south of Paris, for instance, the Federation of Pupils' Parents has planned up a notice on school gates condemning the "insipid, colourless, shapeless, soft, fat, gelatinous, dried out and unidentifiable food" served in canteens.

"Why do so many children leave the table still hungry?" it asks. "Why are three-quarters of the meat dishes rejected by children, who cannot tell what they are? Why are all the dishes drowned in water or completely dry?"

The answer, according to Simone Prigent, a dietitian quoted by *Le Parisien* yesterday, lies in the drive to

contracted to supply school food. "As meat is expensive, it is the first product to be sacrificed," she said. "Steaks are replaced by factory-produced meats that offer fewer proteins. This meat can be obtained with additives that enable it to absorb a maximum of water. Using this technique, a kilo of meat can be turned into 1.4 kg."

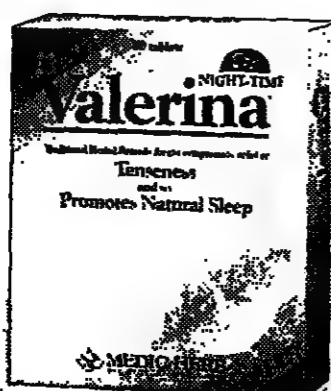
Such practices may be acceptable in Britain but they still provoke angry reactions in France, where parents tend to have fond memories of better school meals. Not only is the food of poor quality, it can also cost a lot. The meals are usually free for poor

a day for families with incomes only slightly above the average. "Financial difficulties are felt through the delays in paying for meals and the number of people who abandon them during the course of the year," the inspectorate says.

In a television interview on Sunday, Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Party leader, denounced malnutrition in poorer areas because he said school canteens were too expensive. A 12-year-old girl interviewed by *Le Parisien* had another complaint. "I want to go to the canteen less this year because it is not very good. It is not very clean and there are often strange

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Clinton's ex-partner goes to jail rather than testify

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SUSAN McDUGAL, President Clinton's former White-water business partner, opted rather than testify before a grand jury about the President's alleged procurement of an illegal loan.

McDougal surrendered herself to marshals at the Little Rock courthouse in Arkansas and was taken into custody. She was expected to be jailed for contempt of court before the day's end.

McDougal, 41, told reporters that Kenneth Starr, the Whitewater special prosecutor, and his team of investigators were interested only in destroying the President and First Lady. "They will do anything. There's nothing they won't do," she said. Mr Starr has angrily denied that allegation, accusing McDougal and her lawyer of "brazenly trying to deceive the public". McDougal was convicted in May of illegally obtaining a \$300,000 (£192,000) federal insured loan from David Hale, a Little Rock financier. Some of that money was funnelled into the failing

Whitewater Development Corporation which she and her former husband, James, jointly owned with the Clintons.

At her trial Mr Hale claimed Mr Clinton, as Arkansas Governor, had pressured him into making that loan. The President denied that charge under oath, as did James McDougal. Susan McDougal claims Mr Starr offered her leniency if she would incriminate the Clintons but she refused and on August 20 was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Last week Mr Starr and his prosecutors subpoenaed McDougal to testify before the Whitewater grand jury. They asked her directly whether she had discussed the loan with Mr Clinton and whether the President had perjured himself in his trial testimony. After she refused to answer, Susan Weber, a federal judge, gave her until yesterday to change her mind or face up to 18 months in prison.

In a separate development, a congressional committee gave Dick Morris, President

Clinton's disgraced political guru, until last night to hand over all his records on the "Filegate" scandal.

William Clinger, the committee's Republican chairman, sent Mr Morris a letter demanding all "correspondence, e-mail, memos, talking points, briefing papers, polling data, telephone records and other records" relating to the White House's highly improper acquisition of several hundred confidential FBI files on Republican officials.

Mr Clinger also ordered Mr Morris to "affirm by sworn statement" whether Sherry Rowlands, the prostitute with whom he had a year-long extramarital affair, had correctly quoted him as saying that Hillary Clinton had ordered the acquisition of the files.

Mr Morris telephoned the Clinton campaign last week to deny saying any such thing, and was said to be preparing a statement for delivery to the committee last night, but at midday yesterday it was still unclear whether he would

surrender his apparently copious records. Since he resigned over the sex affair last month it has emerged that he kept detailed notes on the Clinton White House because he planned to write a post-election book for which — after his resignation — he has negotiated a \$2.5 million advance.

Mr Clinger warned Mr Morris that the committee "may need to take additional efforts to secure sworn testimony from you" — an oblique way of saying he would be subpoenaed if he failed to comply with the demands.

□ Air safety: Mr Clinton, embracing a report on airline safety, requested \$1 billion yesterday to place bomb-detection devices in airports and bolster FBI anti-terrorism efforts. "We cannot make the world risk-free, but we can reduce the risks we face," he said. "And we have to take the fight to terrorists."

The President challenged Congress to approve the \$1 billion request as soon as possible. "Terrorists don't wait," he declared. "And neither should we." (AP)



Susan McDougal, found guilty of loan fraud in May, faces an extra jail sentence for refusing to tell a grand jury whether the President had lied under oath

Rap star shot in 'gangsta' feuding

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A RAP singer was wounded several times when gunmen riddled his limousine with bullets on the busy Flamingo Boulevard in Las Vegas.

Police believe the attack on Tupac Shakur, 25, was the result of a feud between Death Row records, for whom Mr Shakur is a best-selling star, and rivals in the music world.

Mr Shakur, who sings anti-authoritarian "gangsta" rap, had been travelling in a convoy of ten limousines to a nightclub on Saturday night after attending Mike Tyson's world heavyweight championship boxing bout. When the convoy reached the boulevard, the gunmen drew up alongside Mr Shakur's car in a white Cadillac and opened fire with automatic weapons.

Mr Shakur, who was shot four times in the chest, was recovering yesterday in hospital. He declined to assist police. In 1994, he had been shot five times at a New York recording studio. The culprit was never found.

Mexico brutality plays into hands of peasant rebels

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN ATOTAC DE ALVÁREZ

A MASSACRE in this poor rural town in Mexico's rugged southwest almost three decades ago set off a rebellion that lives on in the minds of many residents.

Now, in the hills outside Acapulco, a new band of guerrillas has emerged, and history threatens to repeat itself. Attacks by the rebels, killing at least 18 people in several states in the past ten days, has brought sharply into focus the reality of Mexico's deeply divided society.

Nowhere is that more apparent than on the Mexican Riviera where, a short drive from Acapulco into the desolate mountains of Guerrero state, the disco beat of the resort's night life quickly fades into the rural sounds of poverty. The badlands of Guerrero are a forgotten world of barefoot children and dirt-floor shacks, where peasant farmers earn about \$1 a day tending crops of coffee and maize.

For decades, governors from Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) have relied on the state police to keep rural order. A crowd gathered in the plaza of Atotac de Álvarez on May 18, 1967, to hear Lucio Cabañas, a young teacher, criticise government policy. As he spoke, troops fired into the crowd, killing eight. The teacher escaped to the mountains to plan a guerrilla war.

Cabañas and his 400 men held off the army for seven years, but in December 1974 he was captured and killed. A recent National Human Rights Commission report said that the Government "removed" at least 530 people during that period.

Since then, the lot of Guerrero's poor has worsened, even as Mexican leaders tried to launch the nation into the First World and joined the North American Free Trade Agreement with the United States and Canada. In an attempt to modernise its farm policy, the Government has cut agricultural credits, causing increased rural poverty.

In the face of mounting discontent, the Government's

response is more repression. Human rights groups claim that more than 100 peasant activists and local opposition politicians have been killed in Guerrero by the state police in the last three years.

On June 28 last year, 17 farmers were shot dead when state police ambushed the lorry carrying them to a demonstration to demand fertiliser and loans. On June 28 this year, a Mass at the site of the massacre was interrupted by 80 heavily armed masked guerrillas who proclaimed the creation of the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR). In a five-point manifesto, the rebels vowed to avenge police killings and overthrow the Government.

Many of the several hundred mourners cheered the rebels, said Father Maximino



Gómez, a radical priest who celebrated the Mass. "It was a pleasant surprise to find out that the people at last have an army on their side," he said. In the face of government injustice, he said, armed struggle was "utterly justified," and had the overwhelming support of the rural peasantry, even if some were wary of showing it.

Others disagree, saying the EPR lacks popular support and its attacks will only bring more repression.

As thousands of troops comb the mountains of Guerrero looking for guerrillas, critics say the Government's determination to root out the rebels comes at the cost of ignoring the causes of the conflict. Many fear that increased militarisation of the countryside will only create more recruits to rebel ranks.

Hawaii gay wedding case tests US law

FROM GILES WHITTILL IN LOS ANGELES

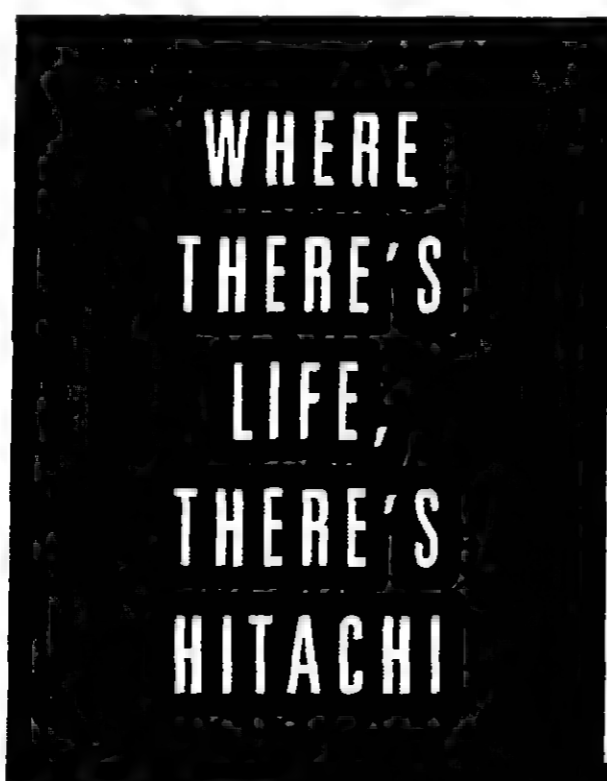
A JUDGE in Hawaii must decide today whether same-sex marriages should be legal in the state. His verdict will have profound implications for the state's relations with the rest of the country, and for the American definition of marriage itself.

Joseph Melillo and Patrick Logan, who have been living together for 18 years, first applied for a marriage licence in 1990. When it was refused, they appealed to the state's supreme court, which in a 1993 ruling that appalled conservatives stated that denying homosexuals the right to marry violated the state's Constitution.

The issue threatens to divide a nation, and to become a political football in the run-up to an election being fought largely over differing views of

"family values". The Honolulu district attorney, fighting for the existing "straight-only" marriage law, has the backing of the religious Right, most conservative legislators and the well-known pundit William Bennett, whom Bob Dole considered as a possible vice-presidential running mate. He recently called the idea of gay marriage an "inherently flawed social experiment on an institution that is the keystone in the arch of civilisation".

Mr Melillo and Mr Logan, and two lesbian couples who have joined their crusade, are backed by the American Civil Liberties Union as well as gay advocacy groups. Despite a history of tolerance for homosexuality, however, 70 per cent of Hawaiians say they oppose gay weddings.



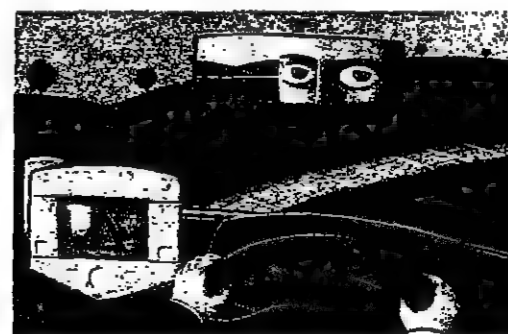
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US warns Iraq of new raids as pro-Baghdad guerrillas seize key city of Sulaimaniya

Clinton is ready to make Saddam pay 'hell of a price'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THE pro-Iraq Kurdish faction of Massoud Barzani captured the Kurdish stronghold of Sulaimaniya from the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) yesterday, United Nations officials said.

"The battle for Sulaimaniya is over. Massoud Barzani's fighters have entered the city without fighting," one UN official said by telephone from Arbil, confirming a statement by Mr Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) that it had taken the key city.

Earlier, the Clinton Administration had warned President Saddam Hussein of Iraq immediately to stop rebuilding air defence facilities destroyed in last week's cruise missile attacks or face further strikes.

In Sulaimaniya last night, many officials joined thousands of terrified civilians in an exodus to the mountains and the Iranian border. The fall of Sulaimaniya will give Saddam indirect but significant influence over most of northern Iraq which had been the only base inside the country for the Western-backed opposition to his regime.

Washington's warning was relayed to Baghdad after American intelligence had detected urgent Iraqi efforts to repair command-and-control centres, radar installations and surface-to-air missile sites in the enlarged southern no-fly zone.

"We have warned Saddam that any attempt to repair those sites or to reinforce them will be taken very seriously, and he must understand the consequences," General John Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said. US Administration officials said the repair work suggested "Iraq really intends not to



Talabani: renews plea for US intervention

honour the no-fly zone. It means that Iraq is now going after us." Plans for new missile attacks had been prepared. "The strikes are ready to present to the President."

US officials have made it clear that America will not intervene militarily to stop what it regards as essentially a Kurdish civil war in northern Iraq, but would consider further missile strikes against Iraqi targets in the south if Saddam's forces fought openly alongside those of the KDP. As yet, Washington lacks any clear evidence that that is happening.

Leon Panetta, the White House Chief of Staff, said: "Rather than engage tactically in the situation in the north, it makes better sense for us to operate on a strategic basis and try to say to Saddam Hussein, 'You can play these games in the north, but you're going to pay one hell of a price every time you do it'."

Before Sulaimaniya fell, it had been fear of Saddam's forces rather than the immediate threat to the city that had propelled the refugee exodus, Western aid officials said.

Battles had raged 60 miles to the northwest, where the KDP captured the Dokan dam, a strategic hydroelectric power plant which controls water and electricity supplies to the region.

Jubilant KDP fighters had pledged that Sulaimaniya would be their next target as they travelled eastwards in convoys of trucks, taxis and pick-up vehicles mounted with machineguns to press their advantage against the outgunned PUK. The PUK's fighters were demoralised and most of the leadership had appeared to have fled Sulaimaniya already, possibly to Iran, UN officials said. Jalal Talabani, the group's leader, has probably fled the city, but continued to beg the United States to intervene.

"The American Administration speaks of southern Iraq, but Saddam's tanks, army and secret police are on the move in the north - towards Sulaimaniya," the PUK said.

The Iraqi forces had heavy weaponry only a few miles behind the KDP's frontline positions, but appeared to have refrained from direct involvement although Western observers reported some long-range Iraqi shelling of PUK positions.

The PUK's fighters had been dug in to defend Sulaimaniya, which lies south of the 36th parallel, making it more vulnerable to Iraqi attack because it is outside the so-called Kurdish safe haven.

President Clinton last night insisted America was "doing everything we can, to get out of Iraq, American citizens and those who have worked with us". Two hundred Iraqi opponents of Saddam were reportedly held up in the threatened city of Salahuddin.



Israel was plunged into fresh political scandal yesterday with the news that Ehud Olmert, left, the Mayor of Jerusalem who is an ally of Benjamin Netanyahu, right, the Prime Minister, is to be charged with fraud

Iran celebrates as CIA team flees Arbil

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE last exit from northern Iraq of a CIA team that had been providing financial and technical support to Iraqi organisations opposed to President Saddam Hussein has exposed the complex power game that has been going on since the end of the 1991 Gulf War.

At stake is the stability of the whole region, the future of Saddam and, perhaps above all, the ambitions of Iran. The "civil war" between the rival Kurdish groups in northern Iraq presented each of the key players - the United States, Iran and Iraq - with an opportunity for increasing its influence.

With the main focus on the confrontation between Saddam and the Ameri-

cans, the gains and losses of Tehran have not attracted great interest. Yet it is ultimately Iran which has the potential for causing Washington more grief in the future because of its strategic ambitions and its determination to prevent the West, and in particular America, from gaining too much influence in the region.

Iran merely waited and watched while Saddam launched his Republican Guard divisions into the Kurdish areas and then suffered the consequences at the hands of the Americans. The advantage for Tehran was that Saddam's offensive destroyed America's attempts to reconcile the two rival Kurdish groups, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), supported by Iran, and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), backed by Iraq.

A senior Western diplomatic source said: "Iran has been seeking to limit US influence in northern Iraq by keeping alive the conflict between the Kurdish factions and undermining American attempts to broker a peace deal. It has succeeded in this objective, at least in the short term."

The departure of the CIA team was a blow for the Americans. The intelligence officers were forced to leave Arbil in northern Iraq hours before Iraqi forces seized the town. The CIA had been engaged in clandestine operations there aimed at nurturing anti-Saddam organisations, debriefing Iraqi defectors and collecting military intelligence.

The "invitation" by the KDP to support its struggle with the PUK gave Saddam the opportunity to send in his

forces to destroy the CIA-supported organisation in Arbil, the Iraqi National Congress, the umbrella group acting for all anti-Saddam dissidents. The blow to America's secret operation and the collapse of the US-brokered peace negotiations between the PUK and KDP in London after Saddam's offensive would have been welcomed in Tehran.

However, not everything has gone Iran's way. It backed the wrong Kurdish faction. The PUK has been routed and now Tehran is faced with thousands of refugees crossing the border from northern Iraq. There is the added risk that some of them may be elements from a third Kurdish faction, the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI), which opposes the Iranian regime from bases in northern Iraq.

Deal with 'devil' offers winner-takes-all gamble for Kurdish faction

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein knows he has backed the winner in this war pitting Kurd against Kurd.

I have driven just south of Arbil on the road to Sulaimaniya through what the two principal Kurdish factions, the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), both say would be the battlefield where the ruler of their "Kurdistan" would be decided.

Walls of earth ten feet high were stretched across the plains with a battalion of riflemen, machine guns and mortars at the ready behind them. The two sides faced each other across a no man's

land less than a mile wide. It was to be a classic Kurdish fight to the death, winner takes all.

As it happened the KDP is about to take all with hardly a casualty. The rival PUK appears to have turned tail and run. Villages on the road south that I visited yesterday are now in KDP control and their rival leader, Jalal Talabani, has probably taken refuge somewhere along the Iranian border, cursing both the West and Tehran for failing him.

His Politburo members, military commanders and their families have followed him, leaving Massoud Barzani, the KDP leader, as the



Michael Nicholson in northern Iraq says Saddam's allies may have won a battle but lost a war for the "Kurdistan" they dream of

region's new overlord. Thanks, of course, to his pact with the devil, which is what he once called Saddam.

The two have done a deal. Saddam has provided Mr Barzani with the tanks and artillery to achieve his putsch. Saddam hoping that through the KDP he can govern by proxy that part of the Kurdish area which he is forbidden by the United Nations (and the

US) to enter. That explains the presence of an Iraqi mechanised brigade that I saw dug in only eight miles south of Arbil. Tanks, APCs, howitzers and heavy mortars and troops give every appearance of intending to stay, contradicting claims even now by the Americans and the French that they have withdrawn.

planes must surely have spotted them as easily as I did in their patrolling area of the UN no-fly zone. So why is the US State Department pretending they are not there?

Travelling across the country over the past week, I had the feeling I could be witnessing the death of the "Kurdistan" that so many people outside it have been trying to preserve for so long. The Kurds' traditional homeland stretches across the borders of Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.

The Kurds are shocked at the way these four countries are putting them down. We met a tribe of nomads on their way from the Iranian border only 40 miles away, driving

hundreds of sheep before them, erecting their large brown tents on the sheltered slopes of the mountains. It is too dangerous to be near Iran, they told me. "We are better protected up here in the mountains."

The only remaining visible international protection in this vast and hostile territory is a contingent of a UN force, but it is small and vulnerable. They told me that at best they can only mediate in this conflict; to interfere could be suicidal.

Yesterday I visited Altush, a Kurdish refugee camp inside Iraq, south of the Turkish border. There are 15,000 people here who have fled

from Turkey's war against yet another Kurdish faction, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. All have their tales of families killed and villages burnt. If they once felt safe here they no longer do so.

They are afraid that after the Turkish Government's recent announcement of a corridor stretching 15 miles across the Turkish-Iraq border, this camp will be declared a base for PKK insurgency and the Turks will send their special forces to empty it.

If Turkey does that then all pretence of a safe area will be finally shattered. Attacked on all sides by the strongest coalition of enemies, these

people will have nowhere to run and what was a great international cry of sympathy to "Save the Kurds" will become an ever-diminishing echo.

As we left the camp, children sang a song that began "We are ready to build our Kurdistan..." They are born to believe in it. They are raised to think of it as real and achievable, but the best they and their children can hope for is to grab what little freedom their enemies are prepared to grant them. For better, for worse.

Michael Nicholson is Senior Foreign Correspondent for ITN.

Okinawans challenge US bases

FROM AFP
IN TOKYO

OKINAWA'S Governor Masahide Ota is to have showdown talks here today with Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's Prime Minister, about a referendum on the island overwhelmingly called for cuts in the United States military presence.

Their meeting this afternoon is expected to influence the timing of the next general election, officials said.

Before leaving for Tokyo, Mr Ota said he had not decided whether to obey a Supreme Court ruling that he should sign documents renewing leases for US military bases.

Mr Hashimoto would be forced to pass special legislation to requisition the land if Mr Ota continues to refuse to sign the documents. That could cause a split between the two biggest parties in the ruling coalition, the conservative Liberal Democratic Party and the left-wing Social Democratic Party.

Mr Hashimoto said the Government would take the referendum result seriously, and that it was "natural" for Okinawans to seek the withdrawal of the bases. He said: "All we have to do is continue our efforts to reduce and consolidate the bases. We cannot cut the number of the bases to zero overnight."

Anti-US sentiment in Okinawa has run high since three servicemen raped a 12-year-old girl last year.

Leading article, page 19

Island dispute with Japan unites Chinese factions

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

ANTI-JAPANESE protests in Hong Kong, Taiwan and China have brought strange nationalist bedfellows together.

The issue is an uninhabited cluster of rocky islets in the East China Sea - called Diaoyu in Chinese and Senkaku in Japanese - where in July Japanese right-wing students erected a rickety lighthouse.

In 1995, defeated in war, China handed the islands to Japan, together with Taiwan and parts of Korea. In 1972, after a long period of American occupation, America returned them to Japan.

Over the weekend several thousand demonstrators, demanding the return of the islands to China, marched peacefully through Hong Kong and burnt effigies. This was the largest outburst yet in a series that began last week when the Japanese Foreign Minister, visiting Hong Kong, declined to receive a petition demanding reparations.

Some demonstrations have been mounted by members of democratic groups in Hong Kong which Peking has regarded as subversive since their support for the Tiananmen demonstrations in 1989. It is a psychological relief to democrats, weary of Peking's condemnation, to get a warm response on a vital issue. Last week some of them were invited into the New China News Agency, Peking's de facto embassy in the colony.

Some democrats also approached C.H. Tong, a pro-Chinese shipping tycoon who

is a strong possibility to be the first Peking-appointed Chief Executive next year, and asked him to lend them a ship to sail to the islands. Mr Tong declined but gave the democrats a friendly reception.

For Peking, however, demonstrations of any sort in Hong Kong could be a source of future difficulty if they extend from one issue to another. The same is true in China. The issue of Japan's seizures of Chinese territory has enraged patriots since 1949 when Japan was handed part



of Shandong at the Versailles conference. For decades the key date has been September 18, the anniversary of the 1931 "Mukden incident" when Japanese troops seized Manchuria and established the puppet state of Manchukuo, headed by Pu Yi, the last Emperor. This was the first move in the occupation of much of China. In anticipation of the anniversary, the official press has been attacking the Japanese occupation of the Diaoyu islands for several weeks.

Uncontrolled demonstrations are never welcome, however. On September 18, 1985, when university students objected to a visit by the Japanese Prime Minister to a military shrine honouring Japanese war dead, and opposed the flood of Japanese products into China, a party document said that the activists, including posters in Tiananmen, posed "the gravest threat" since the Gang of Four. It was feared that forces opposed to Deng Xiaoping's open-door policy to the West were manipulating the students.

Peking fears that popular movements, even if initially praiseworthy, can expand to more profound issues, which was the case in the 1989 Tiananmen protests. Over the weekend, at Shanghai's Fudan University, the authorities tore down wall posters attacking Japan. In Peking, an anti-Japanese group led by men who in the past were removed from the capital during high-level Japanese visits, has issued a declaration calling for the military to take "concrete steps" to prevent Japanese incursions into Chinese-claimed territory.

In Taiwan nationalists have criticised the Taipei Government for not doing enough to protect the islands and some have sailed small boats there, where they were driven off. In a mark of the confusion of nationalist and anti-mainland feelings, many Taiwanese, when asked, want the Government to send a warship to the Diaoyu islands, but few favour China doing so.



President Mandela, 78, and his newly declared love Graca Machel, 50, widow of the former President of Mozambique, out for a stroll in Johannesburg. South Africa's religious leaders are divided over

Mandela affair divides clerics whether Mr Mandela and Mrs Machel should live together without being married. The Dutch Reformed Church has wished them well, but many other religious leaders have reservations, including the Roman Catholics and Muslims. The Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu has urged the couple to marry. (AFP)

Ex-comrade blames Pol Pot

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

LENG SARY said yesterday he had no regrets over the "killing fields" era inflicted on Cambodia in the 1970s, in which up to a million people died, because Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader, was "responsible for everything".

The senior Khmer Rouge leader, whose faction split from Mr Pol Pot's leadership last month, said at his jungle headquarters in northwest Cambodia, that what the country needed now was peace and reconciliation. Making his first major pub-

lic appearance in two decades, Mr Leng Sary, 71, said: "I believe that when the Government and our [rebel Khmer Rouge] movement join each other, the war will be over." But he said that if he did not receive a pardon from King Sihanouk, there would be no further steps towards peace.

Cambodian government officials, who flew in from Phnom Penh, the capital, suggested that a pardon could come "within days". Both Mr Leng Sary and Mr Pol Pot were sentenced to death in

absentia for genocide during the Khmer Rouge rule of terror in 1975-79.

The former Foreign Minister in the murderous Democratic Kampuchea Government said the faction still led by Mr Pol Pot was being marginalised as his rebel movement was "spreading all around the country".

In a dramatic gesture, he handed over the remains of Matthias Wolfe, 31, a German tourist who rode into Cambodia in 1994. He said Son Sen, a hardliner, ordered his death.

Philippines rebels turn to ballot box

FROM ABBY TAN
IN MANILA

THOUSANDS of Muslim guerrillas left their mountain hideouts in the southern Philippines yesterday and trooped to polling booths to vote for Nur Misuari, a former outlaw.

The head of the Moro National Liberation Front cast his vote at a school in his native Jolo island in the Sulu archipelago. "This vote symbolises our commitment to achieve democracy and progress for our people in Mindanao," he said.

Mr Misuari was the lone candidate for the post of Governor of the four-province Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. His candidacy was assured as part of the peace treaty signed last week with the Philippines Government, ending the front's 24-year armed struggle for an independent Muslim homeland in a country that is more than 90 per cent Roman Catholic. The four provinces of Sulu, Tawitawi, Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao have more than 900,000 voters.

Election commission officials said polling was largely peaceful despite fears of violence from armed Christian vigilantes who oppose the peace treaty. The majority Catholic population of Mindanao are afraid of domination by the Moro Muslims. The Mindanao Christian United Command has vowed to fight to defend Christian land and property. The group claims to have 15,000 armed recruits.

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TODAY



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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 1996



Sir Alastair Morton, left, with Robert Malpas, who will succeed him as one of the two co-chairmen of Eurotunnel by the end of next month

Time short for Morton to agree Eurotunnel deal

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

EUROTUNNEL and its 225 banks have not yet reached agreement on the restructuring of its £9 billion debt, Sir Alastair Morton, co-chairman, said yesterday, and a deal may not be in place until the end of October, when he is due to leave the company.

"There is very little left to talk about. I think there are about eight hours of serious negotiations to do and I have about eight weeks to do it in," he said.

"The pieces of a deal are on the table," he added, but the two sides have not yet agreed on the fundamental matters of how the deal is divided between banks and shareholders. He declined to say whether the banks would

eventually own more than half of Eurotunnel's equity, saying that the division of long-term cashflow is what counts. "It will not be an Anglo-Saxon creditor-takes-all deal," he insisted. The banks are pushing for a large debt-for-equity swap and the eventual deal is also expected to involve a convertible bond issue.

Eurotunnel suspended interest payments on most of its debt last September and has been in negotiations with a steering committee of six banks ever since. Two mediators, Lord Wakeham and Robert Badinter, have been helping to prepare a deal.

Once an agreement is found, the steering committee must ensure 100 per cent support from the other creditor banks, while 75 per cent of

shareholders will also have to vote in favour of a deal. Eurotunnel has about 750,000 small shareholders.

According to Sir Alastair, even if an agreement with the steering committee is reached soon, shareholders are unlikely to be able to vote on it until the middle of next year. He said that the votes by banks and shareholders could both go against a deal, "but you have to start somewhere".

The company yesterday reported that it had cut its losses in the six months to June 30 to £371 million from £426 million a year ago. Revenues have more than doubled to £224 million and Eurotunnel is "on course to achieve its announced objective of a 50 per cent increase on 1995" when they were £299 million. Net

interest charges totalled £332 million, compared to £355 million a year ago. The group has been operating at break-even since March, after all costs, including depreciation, but before financial charges and bank fees.

Eurotunnel has increased its market share in car transport on the Dover/Folkestone-Calais route to 45 per cent last month, Sir Alastair said. He argued that rationalisation by the ferry companies is "long overdue". Only about half the 14 ferries now serving the routes should be operating, he said. The ferry companies' aggressive reaction to the threat to their business from the Channel Tunnel, as well as a series of delays during construction, meant that the company had been operating

about a year behind schedule from the start, he said. Moreover, "the Government has inflicted some severe injuries on us with the fragmentation of British Rail," complicating its operations on the English side of the Channel, he said. The company is now looking for some, unspecified, compensation from the Government.

Robert Malpas, chairman of the Cookson industrial materials company, will take over from Sir Alastair as co-chairman when he leaves "at or about the end of October". He will play a less active role than Sir Alastair, and Patrick Ponsolle, current French co-chairman, will become executive chairman of the group.

Pennington, page 29

Shops ring up healthy sales as inflation pressures ease

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN continues to enjoy a virtuous combination of improving consumer demand and easing inflation pressure. The British Retail Consortium (BRC) today reports a buoyant August in the high street, and yesterday there was another very good set of figures on industry's costs and prices.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) yesterday reported that producer input prices — the cost of raw materials — rose by only 0.3 per cent in August and left input prices down 2.2 per cent from a year ago. This was slightly less of a fall than the 2.3 per cent drop recorded in July.

Output prices were flat in August, cutting the rate of factory gate inflation to 2.0 per cent, from 2.2 per cent in July. The ONS said that underlying output price inflation — which strips out volatile food, drink, tobacco and petroleum prices and is a good measure of trends — fell to 1.2 per cent. This is its lowest level since 1967.

Output prices have now fallen for eight consecutive months, from 4.4 per cent in December to only 2 per cent in August, the lowest rate since July 1994. Analysts were particularly impressed with yesterday's figures, given that oil prices have risen.

The continuing fall in input and output prices hint at a good performance ahead for retail prices. Ian Shepherdson, chief UK economist of HSBC Markets, said that yesterday's figures suggest that a huge fall in retail prices is imminent and that the underlying inflation rate should fall into the Government's target range of 2.5 per cent or less over the next few months.

Some economists argued that the figures leave open the

possibility of another cut in base rates. Keith Davies, UK economist for East Ltd, noted that last week's news of a modest upturn in manufacturing meant that the Chancellor could no longer use industrial weakness as justification for a rate cut. However, he suggested that the Chancellor may still use the benign inflation outlook as a peg on which to hang a further rate cut.

The perception of what will happen to interest rates will depend partly on Thursday's retail prices figures for August, which are expected to show all the key measures of inflation falling.

Many commentators remain convinced that lower rates are not justified with consumer sectors of the economy strengthening. The BRC reported an annual increase in the value of retail sales of 6.9 per cent in August compared with July's year on year growth rate of 5.4 per cent. In the three months from June to August, sales rose by an average 6.5 per cent a month, well above the 2.8 per cent recorded in the same months last year.

The BRC noted that sales were healthy, in spite of relatively cool August weather, with the improving housing market helping retailers of electrical and DIY goods, furniture and carpets.

Andrew Sentance, chief economic adviser to the BRC, said that, in the current climate of low interest rates, retail sales should continue to grow at the present rate.

The ONS yesterday published leading indicators for July that showed the shorter leading index, which signals turning points in the economy about six months ahead, falling for the first time this year. This suggests that growth may ease in the next few months.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDEXES

FT-SE 100	3910.8	(+17.8)
Yield	4.0%	
FT-SE All share	1932.67	(+8.29)
Nikkei	20202.27	(+48.74)
Dow Jones	5982.04	(+32.18)
S&P Composite	659.28	(+3.58)

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	8 1/4%	(8 1/4%)
Yield	7.12%	(7.11%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Life long bill	108 1/2%	(108 1/2%)

STERLING

New York	1.8888	(1.8888)
London	1.8800	(1.8833)
DM	2.3271	(2.3270)
FF	7.9482	(7.9488)
SP	1.8878	(1.8881)
Yen	170.19	(170.52)
E index	85.6	(85.7)

\$\$\$ \$ DOLLAR

London	1.4937	(1.4925)
FF	5.1071	(5.1051)
SP	1.2167	(1.2164)
Yen	109.11	(108.17)
E index	95.8	(95.5)

Yen

Tokyo close Yen 108.90		
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NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Nov)	821.70	(821.90)
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COMMODITIES

London close	6383.50	(6383.55)
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* denotes midday trading price

Ostrich cash 'was siphoned offshore'

KAREN ZAGOR

THE alleged financial mismanagement by the directors and business partners of the Ostrich Farming Corporation (OFC), which took in millions of pounds before it ceased trading at Easter, are split out in a High Court writ filed for OFC by Coopers & Lybrand, its liquidator.

The writ alleges £3.37 million was paid to Wallstreet LLC, an American company, for no apparent purpose. It claims "Wallstreet was a mere facade having no commercial purpose of any kind whatsoever and brought into existence solely to enable money to be siphoned out of the Plaintiff (OFC) into an offshore entity."

Of the money paid to Wallstreet, £1.49 million was allegedly misappropriated by OFC directors Allan Walker, Brian Ketchell, and Jack Bennett, and Kevin Jones, owner of one of its marketing firms. Mr Jones previously headed the Alchemy pyramid selling scheme that was closed after a Department of Trade inquiry. Mr Bennett is described as "the controlling mind and will and/or a de facto or shadow director of Wallstreet" as well as a director of Wallstreet Corporation (UK).

OFC made its money by selling ostriches to the public, and then arranging care and breeding. The liquidators have arranged for the birds to be fed while they try to establish ownership. The owners still do not know if they will get their money or if their birds back. Serious Fraud Office investigations continue.

New RJB mine brings 500 jobs

By OLIVER AUGUST

RJB Mining, the company that bought most of British Coal's mines, will create more than 500 jobs by developing the first new pit in 15 years on a coalfield east of Nottingham. The pit contains 150 million tonnes of coal and is estimated to yield 3 million tonnes a year. It will take 15 years to develop.

A spokesman for RJB mining confirmed it will make an announcement on a "major new project" to coincide with the publication of its half-year results today.

One analyst said: "It seems strange that they should open a new mine when the UK coal market as a whole is shrinking. This mine must have pretty good conditions." As there is no real need to build extra capacity, the logical conclusion was that RJB Mining might be intending to close some of its other already

operating but less efficient mines, said the analyst. There are already rumours that two or three mines are heading for closure.

The City expects RJB Mining to report a tough first half. The company is said to face two serious competitive problems. First, the nuclear industry is fully back on stream and, the gas sector is in a better position compared with last year.

Half-year pre-tax profits are thought to be roughly similar to last year's £85 million, but operating profits will have fallen. The last mine development to be started was in Asfordby, Leicestershire in 1981. The mine began producing its annual 1.5 million tonnes of coal in April last year. RJB Mining, headed by Richard Budge, currently employs 9,500 people in 20 collieries.

P&O and Nedlloyd form £2.6bn company

By PAUL DURMAN

LORD STERLING, chairman of P&O, drew upon the examples of Shell and Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch giants, as he announced that the British shipping company is to form a £2.6 billion container business with Royal Nedlloyd of The Netherlands.

P&O Nedlloyd will control the world's largest container-ship fleet, with 112 owned and chartered ships, and 540,000 container boxes. P&O and Royal Nedlloyd will each own 50 per cent of the new company, whose chief executive will be Tim Harris.

The merger will cause 1,400 jobs losses, 250 of them in the UK. The companies have spent six months on the deal and think they have identified £200 million annual savings. Sir Bruce MacPhail, P&O's managing director, said the savings — mostly



Lord Sterling, left, with Leo Berndsen yesterday

from staff cuts, but also from eliminating duplication in container routes and systems development — will lead to an immediate improvement in results from the container business. Returns to P&O should rise to 15 per cent, against 5 per cent last year.

P&O will transfer £700 million of assets to P&O Ned-

lloyd — though not Southampton Container Terminal or Tilbury Container Services. Nedlloyd, where Leo Berndsen is chairman, will transfer its container shipping business into the new company, but will pay P&O £113 million to balance the shareholdings.

Tempus, page 30

Morgan Grenfell redemptions fall

By JON ASHWORTH

REDEMPTIONS by unit-holders in Morgan Grenfell funds tailed off sharply yesterday, in the wake of initial alarm over trading activities by Peter Young, the suspended fund manager. Investors redeemed £39 million yesterday, compared with £83 million on Friday, and £110 million on Thursday, when the scale of the problems at Morgan Grenfell became apparent.

Investigations continue to study the activities of Mr Young, who used offshore funds to invest heavily in unquoted securities. The Serious Fraud Office is in close touch with the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro), but has yet to launch a separate investigation.

Morgan Grenfell Asset Management (MGAM) said it was encouraged by the fall in redemptions. A spokesman

said: "As expected, the rate has slowed down significantly, and there is still enough cash left in the funds." Deutsche Bank, which owns Morgan Grenfell, has injected £180 million in cash to support the European Growth Trust, and two other funds.

Meanwhile, Ashurst Technology, a Toronto-listed engineering group, expressed surprise yesterday that MGAM had built a stake of up to 49.9 per cent in the company — enough, potentially, to trigger a mandatory bid.

Ashurst has asked its financial adviser in London to clarify the extent of Morgan Grenfell's shareholding. It said the size of the holding may subject Morgan Grenfell to certain Canadian follow-up obligations which the company was not in a position to assess. Morgan Grenfell would not comment.

John Stuart Mill.

Author of *The Principles of Political Economy*, 1848.

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JOHN CHARCOL

British Polythene tops £14m

BRITISH Polythene Industries, the plastic bag manufacturer, continued its rapid growth with first-half pre-tax profits up 24 per cent, to £14.3 million.

However, BPI said it expects acquisitions made in the past two months to lose £1.5 million this year. The problem businesses include Swains Packaging and Smurfit Packaging Products, bought from Jefferson Smurfit for £2.5 million, and HPC, bought from Sidlaw Group.

Fully diluted earnings per share increased by 15 per cent, to £199 million. The interim dividend rises by 14 per cent, to 6.25p.

Converters up

Cash Converters, the retailer of second-hand goods, plans to open a further 67 stores in Britain, doubling the number of existing outlets within two years.

The company, based in Australia but with a London share listing, lifted pre-tax profits to £56.51 million (£3.36 million), from £360,000, in year to June 30. A final dividend of 2.6 cents makes 3.9 cents (nil).

Principal plan

Principal Hotels has confirmed that it is to join the stock market by the end of the year, valued at about £100 million. It aims to raise £50 million to cut debt and add about 300 bedrooms to its chain.

Return date

Andrew Coppel, 46, chief executive of Queens Moat Houses, the hotel group, is expected to return to work within three months after preventative heart bypass surgery last week.

How ahead

How Group, the engineering services company, lifted pre-tax profits to £681,000, from £175,000, in the six months to June 30. The interim dividend is 0.5p (0.375p).



John Harris takes the driving seat of his company's bottled gas-powered go-kart after revealing a 9 per cent rise in profits to £19.6 million

Lottery proves just the job for employment

By JON ASHWORTH

THE National Lottery will have created or secured 110,000 jobs by the year 2000, according to the first detailed study of the lottery's impact on job creation. Construction and retailing will be the main beneficiaries of an employment boom that includes some of the UK's most depressed regions, and which more than offsets losses in the pools and gaming industries.

The number of jobs created or secured in the construction industry alone should top 30,000 by the turn of the century, equating to 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent of the entire UK construction workforce.

The Henley Centre, which carried out the research on behalf of Camelot, the National Lottery operator, thinks the net impact on jobs will be small, but positive, once the estimated 6,500 job losses among pools, off-course betting, and bingo companies have been taken into account.

The most immediate gains have been in retailing, where 17,190 jobs have been secured among Camelot-appointed retailers and multiples. Many of the jobs are part-time. Jobs in retailing are expected to stabilise at 18,360. Some 645 jobs have been created at Camelot itself, rising to 660, and a further 580 jobs have been created among Camelot's direct suppliers. About 28,000 jobs have been created or secured so far. Gains in construction are less evident

because the larger projects have yet to start in earnest, but the impact will be noticeable in two years' time.

Jobs in construction are forecast to rise from 5,801 now, to 15,422 in 1997, 24,742 in 1998, and 27,892 in 1999, before peaking at 30,305 in 2000.

Job-creating projects include the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, and the redevelopment of Portsmouth Harbour. Others include arts centres, sports centres and swimming pools. The requirement for staff to manage and run the new complexes is expected to create an additional 24,115 jobs by 2000. Michael Needham, of the Henley Centre, said the estimates were highly conservative, and thought total numbers could top 140,000, or more. The study considers the impact on Camelot's direct suppliers, for instance, without charting benefits lower in the chain.

Tim Holley, chief executive of Camelot, said: "The National Lottery was set up to raise funds for the good causes. The fact that we are also creating and securing jobs on such a large scale is an additional and welcome bonus."

Virginia Bottomley, national heritage secretary, welcomed the news. "Camelot has linked with Royal Insurance to offer insurance to independent retailers, covering commission lost to ticket theft or terminal breakdowns."

Calor gains up to 5% of market in South West

By CARL MORTIMER

CALOR, the bottled gas company, believes that it achieved the second largest market share in the free market trials in the South West, after Sweb, the regional electricity company. Calor would not reveal the number of customers signed up by Calortex, its joint venture in mains gas with Texaco. However, British Gas is believed to have lost up to 20 per cent of its domestic customers and Calortex could have just about 5 per cent of the South West market.

John Harris, chief executive, said that none of the independents would make money unless the trials extended to the country as a whole. He said: "You need at least one million customers to break even."

Cold weather provided a boost for liquid propane gas sales. Calor's core business, volumes were up about 12 per cent in the first half of the year compared with the same period in 1995 and Calor's market share rose 1 per cent. Increased sales helped to lift operating profit, before restructuring provisions, by 23 per cent to £27.7 million.

Cost savings from Calor's £14 million restructuring enabled it to reduce prices. However, Mr Harris said prices might have to rise in October.

Profit after tax was up 9 per cent to £19.6 million in the six months to June 30 but the interim dividend is maintained at 6p.

Penzance, page 29

BA to spell out job effect of cost cuts

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS will next week reveal to union leaders what its £1 billion cost-cutting package will mean for jobs.

Amid speculation that the airline plans to shed 10,000 jobs out of a total of 40,000, the two sides will meet on September 19, although informal meetings between British Airways directors and union leaders will take place

this week at the Trades Union Congress.

BA yesterday refused to confirm expectations of sweeping job cuts, but said that it would push through with cost reductions to combat "a very competitive environment".

The company said that no firm decisions had been made on implementing the step-change programme that BA announced in May with its

results. However, it is widely expected that a radical reshaping of the airline - which is likely to include selling parts of the business, contracting out operations and moving to cheaper sites - could not be undertaken without significant cost to jobs.

George Ryde, national secretary for civil air transport for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that it

was hard to see how jobs could escape unscathed. However, he said that the union had been told by BA that job figures were likely to remain stable - within 1,000 or so - until the end of the century.

Mr Ryde said: "We need to find out exactly what the company is proposing and over what timescale. At the moment, it is all rumour." He said he was hopeful that costs could be

cut without an enormous effect on jobs, and cited cost savings of £750 million made between 1991 and 1994 without the shedding of labour.

Mr Ryde said that the job projections for the end of the century may have involved not BA staff but staff needed to work in businesses that may be sold on by the airline.

Forth up to £10m as it awaits news on Rosyth

By OLIVER AUGUST

FORTH PORTS, the port operator, saw its pre-tax profits rise from £7 million to £10.2 million in the half year to June 30.

The group is still waiting for a decision on the future of the Rosyth naval base. Yesterday, Forth presented itself as hopeful that a sale will be completed in the second half of the year. Throughout the first half, the group had discussions, as a member of the Rosyth 2000 consortium, with the Ministry of Defence for acquisition of the base.

Bill Thomson, the chairman, said: "We expect the second half to contribute towards a satisfactory result for 1996 as a whole. It has become increasingly clear that there are many investment opportunities available to us within our ports. It is very encouraging that this should be the case and it bodes well for the future of the group."

In March, Forth said that its priority was to integrate the ports of Tilbury and Dundee completely, and this is now complete. Mr Thomson said that both ports are performing to expectation and a drive for further efficiencies would help to enhance the performance of the two acquisitions.

The group had continued to work on its proposal for a new terminal on the Mersey by submitting a harbour empowerment order to the Department of Transport and a revised grant application to the Government Office for Merseyside, he said.

Earnings per share rose to 18p, from 14.4p. The interim dividend rises to 4p, from 3.6p.

One-2-One raises additional £1bn

By ERIC REGULY

MERCURY ONE-2-ONE, the fourth largest mobile phone company, said yesterday that it has raised almost £1 billion in additional funds to complete the expansion of its digital network by the end of next year.

One-2-One, owned equally by Cable and Wireless and US West, a regional phone company, wants the network completed quickly so it can compete more effectively with Orange, Vodafone and Cellnet.

Orange, the only other all-digital network, launched its operations only two years ago and was able to quickly overtake One-2-One because it invested more heavily in developing a national infrastructure. One-2-One suffered

because it concentrated on greater London, with limited coverage outside the capital.

The company's shareholders have agreed to inject £355 million in funds into One-2-One over the next two to three years in addition to the £645 million already invested since the service was launched in 1993.

One-2-One has also secured another £600 million in debt financing, raising the total to £1.2 billion, from a 15-member banking syndicate led by Banque Paribas, HSBC Investment Bank and Citibank International.

Available funding now stands at £2.2 billion, of which £970 million will be required to expand the network so it can reach 95 per cent of the population.

Bank seeks listing in New York

THE Bank of Ireland has applied for a listing on the New York Stock Exchange in an effort to stimulate more US interest in its shares (Eileen McCabe writes).

The company said yesterday that it expects trading in its American Depository Receipts (ADRs), under the symbol "IER", to begin next Tuesday. The bank started the listing process by applying to the US Securities and Exchange Commission for a sponsored, level-one ADR programme in November 1995.

According to Michael Hillin, head of the bank's investor relations, the listing will enable some US investment funds that are currently not allowed to hold foreign shares to invest in the bank.

No new shares will be issued as a result of the move.

Thorn plans US appeal

THORN, the UK rental services company, is to appeal against a US Court of Appeals decision affirming that its rental-purchase transactions in Minnesota are subject to consumer credit legislation. The company said it was "very disappointed by this decision, which it considers incorrect". The decision only applies to Minnesota, where Thorn has eight outlets out of more than 1,300 in America. Rent-to-own dealerships have come under attack in America for allegedly charging excessive interest.

Wilson Bowden up

WILSON BOWDEN, the housebuilder and property developer, expects a strong second-half performance with volumes and margins up on last year. Yesterday it reported first-half pre-tax profits of £17.3 million, 1.8 per cent higher. David Wilson, chief executive and chairman, said sentiment was stronger, but could still be fickle, and "not all parts of the country are sharing in the improved situation". The interim dividend rises 5.3 per cent to 3p a share. Earnings rose 1.7 per cent to 12.3p a share.

Canadian Pizza delivers

STRONG exports helped to lift profits at Canadian Pizza to £286,000 before tax from £10,000 in the six months to the end of June. Turnover was up 41 per cent to £9.45 million and earnings per share rose 40 per cent to 3.5p. The interim is maintained at 2.4p, payable on November 5. The company said it was now searching for acquisitions. The most recent purchase was Meridian Foods, bought for £2.3 million in May.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.05	1.89
Austria S	17.29	15.69
Belgium F	50.97	46.87
Canada C	2.549	2.089
Cyprus C	0.793	0.698
Denmark K	9.55	8.78
Finland Mk	7.63	6.98
France F	8.35	7.70
Germany Dm	2.48	2.27
Greece Dr	12.87	11.71
Hong Kong	12.71	11.61
Ireland P	1.15	0.94
Ireland P	1.02	0.86
Israel Sh	5.21	4.68
Italy Lira	2470	2015
Japan Yen	184.60	168.68
Malta	0.588	0.543
Netherlands Gld	2.784	2.534
New Zealand S	2.40	2.18
Norway Kr	10.54	9.74
Portugal Esc	200.00	231.50
S Africa Rd	7.81	6.61
Spain Pta	200.00	190.00
Sweden Kr	11.03	10.23
Switzerland Fr	2.03	1.85
Turkey Lira	1291.52	1311.52
USA \$	1.659	1.529

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Jobs and baggage in the air at BA Business tests the TUC water Eco-friendly products suffer a setback

Despair in the departure lounge

BRITISH AIRWAYS is growing to resemble one of those circus elephants that occasionally runs amok, trampling spectators, and smashing everything in its path. First, Bob Ayling, the suave ringmaster, faced the embarrassment of a potential downing of tools by BA's pilots — not a happy prospect, coinciding, as it did, with BA's annual jamboree for shareholders at the Barbican. Concurrently, came the proposed alliance with American Airlines — soon dismissed as a merger in everything but name, and running into heavier turbulence by the day. Now, comes leaked word of a John Birt-style shakeout, which could lead to the loss of 10,000 jobs, and see everything from baggage handling to aircraft maintenance parcelled off to bidders from Abidjan to Accra. Both worrying to passengers.

Bad news indeed — particularly for BA's long-suffering employees, who have grown to despair at the men running a company in which they take so much pride.

BA insists it must stick to its goal, announced in May, of stripping £1 billion out of the business within three years, if it hopes to remain competitive (the same argument used for

the American tie-up). It points out that £800 million in costs were taken out in the previous five years, through purchasing improvements, selling off old properties, and through working its aircraft harder — keeping them in the air, where they belong. The next phase, codenamed "Step Change", could involve the sale of baggage and cargo-handling, crew support operations, information technology, and other functions, although BA insists nothing has been finalised.

To be fair, the 10,000 job losses figure is a bit meaningless. BA's workforce has seen-sawed wildly in the last few years, falling from 54,500 in 1991 to 48,960 in 1993 (reflecting the slump in bookings after the Gulf War) then climbing again, to reach 55,300 by the end of March. Each new round of hirings has been heralded as the fruit of a profitable company serving customers and shareholders well.

Some IT work has been outsourced to India, but not a great amount, BA insists. Service and safety standards would never be compromised, whatever

action is taken, says the world's favourite airline.

None of this makes BA's employees feel any better about the ham-fisted antics at Speedbird House. Lord King of Wartaby initiated some tough reforms in his day, but you won't hear anything but grudging praise for him down at the pilots' canteen. Sir Colin Marshall, equally, was seen as a tough, but respected, operator. No such joy for Mr Ayling, on whose ringmaster lapel all BA's *four pas* are rapidly being pinned. Perhaps he should move on to another circus.

Blackpool illumination

BUSINESS leaders were clearly in evidence at the annual conference of the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool yesterday — trying to glean some indications of what Labour will be like in government. The current state of strikes means that business needs to be reassured about the old, vested issue of Britain's indus-



PENNINGTON

trial relations. What business leaders heard from Blackpool yesterday drew from them a mixed response.

They liked the emphasis on competitiveness and on corporate success from TUC General Secretary John Monks: no longer are employers seen as the enemy, but instead successful companies are seen, by Mr Monks at least, as central to improving the economy, jobs and the unions themselves.

They liked less some other elements. They don't much like the idea of minimum standards at work. They don't like it from Europe, and they don't like it from the TUC either. From Europe, they don't like the social chapter, which a future Labour

government will sign. From the TUC, they don't much like a national minimum wage. Unions will set in Blackpool tomorrow their own preliminary target level for a statutory minimum.

Though Labour is constantly trying to increase its appeal to business — sometimes to the irritation and even anger of trade unions at the TUC — business leaders are coming to recognise that this process will go so far, and no further. Talks with senior Labour figures are starting to convince business leaders that Labour is for real on issues like the social chapter and the minimum wage, and that these are not subjects which are open for negotiation. Now business has moved on from back-of-the-envelope guesses about what their employment effects may be, and wants to know how they will work in practice, what they will mean and how they will operate. Then they can work on whatever options there might be for getting round them. Leaving aside the last point, this thirst for the practical is the right route for business to be taking ahead of

the election — and if that leads business leaders to Blackpool to try to find out, then that's the right move too.

Grey day for green washes

ANOTHER eighties myth bites the dust. Green cleaning products are not very good for the environment. Sainsbury has decided to axe some of its "green" detergents on the devastatingly sensible grounds that they are not actually very green.

Suspicion that some supposedly environmentally friendly products were just another way of charging higher prices have been confirmed by the Sainsbury's move, which comes after a report by the National Consumer Council that many retailers' environmental claims are misleading. In fact, many consumers have not waited to be told: sales of "green" cleaning products, so popular in the eighties, have already begun to fall in the more price-conscious nineties. The onus will now be on the

many producers who make some claim to eco-friendly status — other supermarkets, the Body Shop, et al — to prove to consumers that their products really are all that they claim.

One problem with environmentally friendly cleaning products in particular is that often a lot more of them are needed to achieve the same results one would get using a standard, chemical-packed product. The recent suggestion from Lever Brothers that customers should use one third less washing powder than usual, because modern washing machines now do so much of the work, will do more for the environment than selling an inefficient, expensive, "eco-friendly" powder to small numbers of shoppers.

Out like a lamb

SIR ALASTAIR MORTON was unconvincingly pleasant when announcing better half-year figures and market share for Eurotunnel yesterday. But the charm offensive is unlikely to soothe the bankers who have endured years of curmudgeonly insults and will decide whether the financial restructuring will be in place before Sir Alastair retires as co-chairman next month. As with all things relating to the Channel Tunnel it will be brinkmanship to the end.

Danka in copiers takeover at Kodak

By PAUL DURMAN

DANKA Business Systems, the acquisitive photocopier group, will double in size when it buys part of Kodak's office equipment business for \$684 million.

Danka is buying the sales, marketing and service arms of Kodak's Office Imaging business, which specialises in the high-speed copiers used by government and large companies. Shares in Danka — UK quoted but with its headquarters in Florida — leapt 85p to 560p.

With the addition of the Kodak business's \$1.8 billion of turnover, Danka's annual sales will rise to about \$3.5 billion. Danka said its recurring revenues from service, supplies and rentals would more than double to \$2 billion. About 10,400 Kodak employees — 700 of them in the UK — are expected to join Danka. Integrating the two businesses will cost Danka an estimated \$25-\$35 million, which will be charged to its third-quarter results.

Mark Vaughan-Lee, Dan-

ka's chairman, said the deal would give his company a network of more than 700 offices in 35 countries. It would enable Danka to meet all the copying needs of its customers. Danka currently supplies relatively few high volume copiers, a market dominated by Xerox with a share of more than 70 per cent.

"Danka is financing the deal with debt, and has arranged a six-year \$1.2 billion facility with its banks. Mr Vaughan-Lee said Danka's business was highly cash-generative, and the Kodak deal was "a highly bankable transaction. Banks were crying out to get involved".

As part of a strategic alliance, Kodak will supply Danka with high-speed copiers and printers. Eastman Kodak, the parent company, put the copier sales business up for sale to concentrate on its photographic film interests. Kodak has retained its copier manufacturing and research and development operations.

Danka expects the deal to lead to an immediate improvement in earnings. Panmure Gordon, the company's broker, is forecasting that profits for the year to March 1998 will be £116 million — equivalent to 37p a share of earnings, a 6p uplift on previous forecasts.

Book value of the assets that Danka is acquiring is about \$800 million. Mr Vaughan-Lee said that in previous acquisitions Danka had bought hardly any assets and had been paying largely for goodwill. It is acquiring Kodak Imaging Services, a facilities management business.

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Decline at Rugby Group

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

RUGBY GROUP, the building materials company, reported a 20 per cent drop in interim profits yesterday and gave warning that the outlook for the second half is mixed, with only a slight improvement in the UK market and no sign of recovery in Australia.

Geoffrey Higham, chairman, said: "While market conditions in the USA have generally improved, this is not the case in Australia and the UK. In the UK there are some signs of modest improvement in the housing market, though these will be slow to flow through to our business and are largely offset by reductions in public infrastructure spend."

In the first half, cement sales were down 8 per cent in the UK, while profits were nearly halved in the joinery business, he said. In the six months ended June 30 pre-tax profits were £29 million (£30.1 million). The interim dividend will be maintained at 1.5p and is payable on November 1. Earnings were 3p a share (3.7p).

Mr Higham said bad weather in Britain, the US and on the Continent in the first quarter was partly to blame for the drop in profits. Mr Higham will be succeeded as chairman by Robin Gourlay, a non-executive director since June 1994. The shares closed at 103p, down 1p.



Man of many parts: Chris Swan, chairman and managing director of Finelist Group, the distributor of automotive components, reported a rise in the company's pre-tax profits to £8.55 million, from £7.2 million, for the year to June 30. The total dividend rises to 6.4p, from 5.4p, with a final payout of 4.5p. Earnings per share were 17.8p (15.3p).

Waterford down on BSE worry

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

AN international downturn in dairy product prices and the continuing BSE beef scare resulted in a 4 per cent drop in interim pre-tax profits for Waterford Foods, the Irish dairy company.

Lower-than-expected profits of £10.6 million came despite a 53 per cent increase in turnover. Earnings were down 22 per cent to 13.38p a share but the company declared a 4.6 per cent increase in the interim to 18.36p, payable October 26.

The Cheese Company in Britain, acquired in September 1995 for £125 million, accounted for most of the turnover increase and a 25 per cent jump in operating profits to £22.8 million.

Bull run ahead for Hammerson

By CARL MORTSHED

HAMMERSON, the property group which in June acquired the Bull Ring shopping centre in Birmingham, is increasing its interim dividend by 5.7 per cent to 3.7p. Ron Spiney, chief executive, said he expected to see an increase in office values over the next nine months.

He said: "The key is stock selection. Investors and overseas funds are seeking prime only. However, supply is limited."

Hammerson's pre-tax profit before exceptional items fell 2.8 per cent to £31.2 million in the half year to June, but earnings increased 10.8 per cent to 8.2p a share after the benefit of a £1 million gain on property disposals and a lower tax charge. Mr Spiney

said Hammerson was achieving rents of £37 to £39 per sq ft at 99 Bishopsgate, its office redevelopment in the City of London. However, he added that tenants were choosy. "If you cannot provide the right product, they are not interested."

Hammerson will start construction work this autumn on Globe House, an office project on the Embankment, in London. Mr Spiney expects to achieve rents of £35 a sq ft compared with a break-even rent of £28 a sq ft.

Total rental income increased from £62.9 million to £63.3 million in the half year. Hammerson intends to seek a joint venture partner for its redevelopment of the Bull Ring.

Irish join Australian airports race

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

AER RIANTA, joined the battle for Australia's airports yesterday, saying that it intends to bid for three of the country's biggest airports in the imminent A\$4 billion (£2 billion) privatisation.

Aer Rianta, the state company that operates Ireland's three main airports at Dublin, Cork and Shannon as well as Birmingham Airport, is joining forces with Lend Lease, the Australian construction group, and Brambles, the transport group, to bid for Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth airports.

These are set to be sold as the first tranche of the privatisation within the next few weeks, raising up to A\$2 billion.

City welcomes BTR disposal of stake in Taiwan group

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BTR, the diversified engineering company, yesterday continued its disposal of non-core assets with the £191 million sale of its 51 per cent stake in Taiwan Polymer Group.

The company said that it would make a book loss of £76 million on the sale, which will be charged in its interim results when they are unveiled on Thursday, because of a loss on the book value of the subsidiary's assets and to cover certain contractual obligations.

The sale of the petrochemicals company brings the total proceeds from BTR's disposal programme to £900 million.

The City expects that the company will announce further sales totalling up to £2 billion on Thursday as Ian Strachan, the chief executive, shifts the company's focus towards high-margin engineering businesses.

The City is braced for a cut of up to 40 per cent in the dividend as Mr Strachan moves to restore the payment to a more sustainable rate. The company is also set to undergo a boardroom shake-up as management responsibility is shifted from a regional basis to a business division basis.

Analysts predict that half-year profits are likely to fall by 15 per cent, to £600 million. BTR's stake in Taiwan Polymer Group was bought by Union Petrochemical and USI Far East, two Taiwanese petrochemical companies. BTR will receive an initial cash payment of \$120 million, to be followed by two annual payments of \$90 million.

Taiwan Polymer made a profit of £16 million on sales of £400 million last year, but the company has suffered a downturn in the cycle, and profits have dived to £6 million in the

first half of 1996, compared with £37 million in the same period in 1995.

Proceeds of the disposal will be used to invest in the future development of BTR, the company said yesterday. The sale was well received by the City, which had been concerned about the downturn in the chemicals market, and shares in BTR rose by 5p to close at 267p.

Tempus, page 30

Interim goes after ASW loss

By PAUL DURMAN

ASW HOLDINGS, the steel manufacturer, is passing the payment of an interim dividend after suffering a first-half loss of £24.2 million.

Sales declined £50 million to £280.7 million as prices fell sharply and its customers reduced stocks of steel beams and other reinforcements for the construction industry. In the first six months of 1995, ASW made a profit before tax, and exceptional items of £12.1 million.

The dividend cut will save £3.2 million. ASW, which recently appointed Alain Soulas, formerly of Arjo Wiggins, as its new chief executive, said it was conducting a major review of all spending, and has already reduced overheads by £4 million a year. Capital expenditure has also been cut back, falling from £16 million to £10.6 million in the first half.

Greenhills in advanced talks to buy Browns nightclub

By JASON NISSE



Browns is a favoured haunt of Naomi Campbell

GREENHILLS, the troubled AIM-listed leisure group, is in advanced talks to buy the exclusive Covent Garden nightclub, Browns, and is to take on two new directors who have been involved in six companies which have been insolvent.

The company has said it is in advanced talks to buy Browns Group, which owns Browns, a favoured haunt of celebrities such as Jack Nicholson and Naomi Campbell.

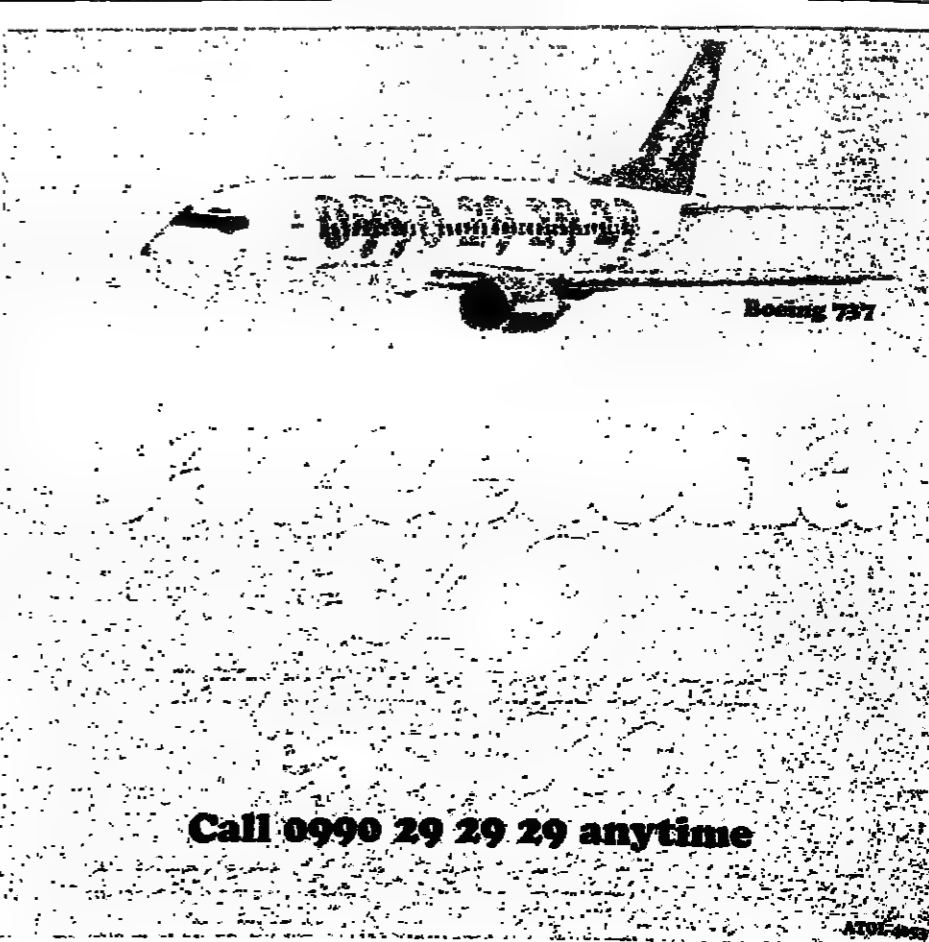
As part of the deal, two of the founders of Browns, 37-year-old Angelo Panayiotou and his partner Michael Alculumbre, two years his senior, will be joining Greenhills board.

As part of the tightening up of AIM listing requirements, Greenhills has been obliged to reveal details of the two new directors' business history. This shows that Mr Panayiotou has been involved in five

companies now in liquidation and one, Routerange, which went into receivership but has paid off its debts and discharged the receiver.

Mr Alculumbre was also involved in one of Mr Panayiotou's insolvent companies, Crusader Lighting, and the two resigned from its board in May 1993, shortly before it collapsed. Two of the insolvent companies were placed in voluntary liquidation and have been merged into a new company which is trading solvent.

A spokesman for Greenhills said there was no question of any convictions, criticisms by regulators or outstanding creditors for any of the collapses; the two new directors had been checked out by Neill Clerk Capital, Greenhills's financial adviser, which had found no cause for concern in their past history.



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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Twitching to be off

SIR Alastair Morton has been meticulously planning his holiday when he stands down as co-chairman of Eurotunnel at the end of October. For the first quarter of next year, Sir Alastair and Lady Morton, who is renowned for bending her chums' ears with tales of her exciting travels, will be venturing through South America, the South Pacific and Antarctica. The pair want to "switch off" and enjoy a spot of their new hobby, bird watching. And what will Sir Alastair be taking to read? "Nothing to do with tunnelling."

Away games

ANOTHER HSBC employee is being shipped across the Atlantic to join the bank's burgeoning ghetto in Summit, New Jersey. Baby-faced Ian Shepherdson, who stuck his neck out for a recovery in the housing market, and sold his own property in 12 hours to prove it, has been promoted from chief UK to chief US economist. A committed Newcastle United fan, Shepherdson has rented a house with a six foot TV screen in the hope of catching a home match between the baseball and American football. "I was on the waiting list for two-and-a-half years before my season tickets came through last October. Needless to say, some of my family are delighted about my move."

Off the ball

HOWARD DAVIES spends his "most important hour of the week" on Friday afternoons sweating in a Manchester City kit at a grotty football pitch south of the Thames with the likes of the BBC's John Birt. In this month's *SHE* magazine, the deputy governor of the Bank of England describes his weekly foray as an "escape from the world of finance". Davies, who claims to be the only non-TV person on the pitch, says: "I never think about interest rates, or the value of the pound, or the Bank of England."



Davies: great escape

Own goal

THE City Diary telephone lit up on Friday after my comment about the smoking ban at Molins' results meeting. A panicked Peter Harrison, chief executive, comes on the phone: "There was no ban. Our company respects people's freedom of choice," and it makes cigarette rolling machines. Clearly one can't always rely on one's informants — even when they do hail from the firm.

Cider with Norma

JOHN and Norma Major flew into Bulmer's backyard yesterday for some liquid refreshment at the cider plant in Hereford. On the day that the Prime Minister said that he would aim for a 20p standard rate of income tax, he was sipping Strongbow with Edmund Bulmer, grandson of the plant's founder and a former Conservative MP for Wyre Forest. While his wife tried a Woodpecker, Mr Major snacked his lips and recalled fond memories of his more energetic cricketing days when he used to quench his thirst with a pint of cider.

MORAG PRESTON



Ups and downs: sales growth at Disneyland Paris has slowed this year from 17 per cent in the first quarter to a flat forecast in the final

The theme may change but it still is not child's play

Frank le Duc gives an end of summer report on a leisure market growth sector

Analysts and investors could have picked up some hot tips from a bunch of kids this past week. Back at their desks after the long summer break, schoolchildren have been comparing the destinations they visited and the breath-taking rides they tried out at Europe's theme parks: Space Mountain at Disneyland Paris; Dragon Khan at Port Aventura; Nemesis at Alton Towers. Investors, too, have enjoyed — or endured — a rollercoaster ride, holding their breath in anticipation as they relinquish control and suspend their belief.

The general trend in attendances has been positive this year, with visitor numbers expected to show an increase. The weather has played a part: if it is too hot, people head for the beach; if it is wet, they opt for indoor attractions.

The high profile launch of Euro Disney's park and rides just outside Paris in 1992 created greater awareness of this sector of the leisure market. The arrival of the Magic Kingdom has not been to the detriment of rivals, but has given impetus to demand in general. Bill Richards, senior partner at Tourism Research & Marketing, the consultant, said: "The impact of Disney didn't take anything away from the existing market. It built the market." Euro Disney's launch was, however, anything but an easy ride. The spotlight of publicity picked out the cost overruns and trading losses in sharp relief. Then, just as in all the best fairy tales, a prince came to the rescue. Prince al-Waleed bin Talal bought a 24 per cent stake, with a promise of substantial further cash for improvements to the park: a rights issue was held; more than 60 banks agreed to an interest holiday; and Walt Disney, holder of the biggest stake, agreed to waive royalties and management fees.

Investors in Pearson could have been forgiven for having an uncomfortable feeling in the pit of their stomachs when the group announced plans to take a 40 per cent stake in the consortium building Port Aventura in Spain. They need not have worried. Translating Alton Towers into Spanish may present a linguistic challenge, but the concept appears to have travelled well. And to the delight of Lord Blakenham, Pearson's chairman, the Spanish appetite for a full and leisurely lunch has provided the icing on the revenue cake.

The expertise behind Chessington World of Adventures and the other attractions in Pearson's Tussauds subsidiary, combined with a more favourable

climate than Paris, have ensured that the only rollercoaster ride has been for the Spanish park's visitors.

Port Aventura is one of three theme parks run by Tussauds and has proved profitable from an early stage. The management freely admits that it learnt lessons from the problematic birth of the debt-laden French project as it takes full advantage of a site rejected by Euro Disney. "We are big fans of Disney — they do things terribly well," said Juliet Simpkins, head of public affairs at the Tussauds Group, "but there are differences."

Port Aventura is in a sunny climate. It's on the coast that is well established in attracting visitors and well supplied with hotels and apartments. One of the problems that Disneyland Paris encountered was with the hotels rather than with the park itself.

She praised the transport infrastructure (though Disneyland Paris is now well-connected when it comes to planes, trains and automobiles, compared with when it launched) and added that 20 million tourists visit the Costa Dorada each year. Millions visit Paris too, but the type of tourists who have tended to head for the Spanish coast are more likely to fall within a theme park's target market.

Other differences between the two attractions are that Disneyland Paris is on a larger scale and open all year, which adds to the cost base, although the improvement in operating revenue shown in the first two quarters of the current financial year highlight the scope for growth that Euro Disney is keen to emphasise. Sales growth has slowed in successive quarters this year — from 17 per cent in the first to 8.9 per cent in the second and 4.5 per cent in the third — and is expected to be flat in the current and final quarter, which ends

on September 30. Nigel Reed, leisure analyst at Paribas, said: "A period when you make two thirds of your revenues [third and fourth quarters] is showing inadequate growth." This is because the park is operating much closer to capacity at the height of summer, leaving less room for improvement.

The good news for shareholders, concedes Mr Reed, is that the threat of closure has been substantially reduced, so customers are much less worried about putting down deposits than they were before the restructuring. And



Bourguignon: longer visits

Space Mountain, which opened last year, has proved the best attraction that the company hoped, although Mr Reed said that the benefit was unwinding. About a quarter of admissions to the French park are repeat customers, making new rides a key ingredient for financial success.

Mr Reed said that much higher growth was vital as the interest holiday and waiver of royalties and management fees would end in three years' time. "You actually need 30 to 60 per cent more revenue over the next three to four years. That's the nub of the problem."

The development of the adjoining Festival Disney is progressing well. The official opening of the Planet Hollywood restaurant is due shortly, and a Gaumont cinema should be open within a few months. Plans to develop adjacent land are in the pipeline. The park is also aiming to persuade people to stay longer; expanding the scale of the operation is essential for the success of this aspect of Euro Disney's dream.

Mr Reed said that, while there would be no new rides next year, there would be a big celebration of the park's fifth birthday, complete with special parades and new shows. The need for further development could also mean a further

cash call. "There has been no suggestion recently, but it wouldn't surprise me. It's a significant possibility."

At Tussauds Group, the successful opening of a hotel at Alton Towers this year has pleased Michael Jolly, the chairman and chief executive, who said: "There is no fixed or firm commitment just now to build hotels at Port Aventura, but there is every intention to do so."

Like Philippe Bourguignon, who runs Euro Disney, he wants to attract visitors for longer at the Spanish park and at Alton Towers. Mr Jolly said the intention at Port Aventura was to expand capacity and add rides, and he expected visitor numbers to rise further. This year they are ahead on a like-for-like basis, although the season does not end until October 27, and September was the busiest month last year.

Chessington World of Adventures, another Tussauds attraction, has faced competition this year from not only Thorpe Park, but Legoland Windsor. Mr Jolly said: "There has been no diminution in visitors, and sometimes growth over last year. Legoland has stimulated the market."

Mr Richards, who will be issuing Tourism Research & Marketing's annual report on theme parks, does not expect to report any major new rides at the best-known parks. But Efteling in The Netherlands is another park planning a hotel. Mr Richards foresees potential for Western Europe's main parks to build new rides, as there is a good market in Eastern Europe and South America for second-hand rides.

The other significant trend is the greater emphasis on "edutainment". Parc Asterix in France cottoned-on to this early on, and Disneyland Paris showed that it understood the concept when it introduced the Space Mountain ride, featuring associated educational material. More in a similar vein can be expected about sailing and navigating between now and the end of the century as Euro Disney taps this theme in its efforts to persuade parents that a visit is more than just a fun day out — or two.

As more theme parks open and are planned, the competition is expected to raise standards and expand the market further. Euro Disney will be hoping to lead the way if it is to offer any financial return. Its managers can — and do — listen to the youngsters who have been taken for a thrilling ride this summer, but they can also testify that ensuring a happy landing for investors is far from being child's play.



JANET BUSH

Why further Euro-fudge will sweeten path to EMU

Talk of European monetary union being derailed because countries are failing to meet the Maastricht economic convergence criteria is looking dangerously naive. The single currency will probably go ahead, on the back of a shameless statistical Euro-fudge if necessary.

The financial markets have known this for months, which is why German and French long bond yields have converged and why currency dealers have only flirted with attacking the franc. But now we all have proof that the politics driving the campaign for a single currency will shamelessly trample over the economics. John Major should decide how he intends to respond to this new intelligence before the Dublin summit on the Saturday before the Tory Party Conference. His Euro-sceptic wing has some stupendous new ammunition.

Last week, France announced an astonishing deal with France Telecom. Before it is privatised, the state-owned company will make a

leaves the taxpayer to pick up the incalculable tab for de-commissioning. All this makes negotiations about the rules of the game after

elites in Paris, Bonn and Brussels are concerned. All the worthy attention to detail, all the good intentions about economic convergence are being junked. For the Bundesbank, this is a nightmare. For British Euro-sceptics, it is ample reason to remain deeply suspicious about the single currency. If countries which do not meet the criteria strictly are allowed in simply because their participation is deemed politically necessary, how easy will it be to keep others out? If France is allowed to get away with outrageous interpretations of Maastricht's deficit rules, why can't Greece or Portugal?

And the particular form of creative accounting announced by France stores up dreadful trouble for the future. Britain knows all about such things. Take the private finance initiative, which has allowed the Government to slash its capital spending budget but spreads out huge spending commitments years into the future. Or the cut-price sale of British Energy, which

6 All the good intentions about economic convergence are being junked 9

has promised to keep in the public purse the future cost of telecom workers' pension payments. Put baldly, France gives itself a fighting chance of meeting the Maastricht deficit criteria but also burdens future taxpayers with huge unfunded pension liabilities.

Yves-Thibault de Silguy, spokesman for Europe's Monetary Affairs Commissioner, has said that the Commission has not yet taken a definitive position on the transfer, but it is inconceivable that France will be stopped. The Commission is so desperate for the single currency to go ahead, whatever the economic arguments, that it is reputed to boast a team devoted to exploiting the vague language of Maastricht and dreaming up accounting wheezes to ensure that enough countries make the EMU grade.

The fact that the French announcement has not created a political storm in Europe and seems to have been ignored by the markets should once and for all shift the European debate away from the Maastricht criteria. They will not be met, but tant pis as far as the political

EMU that much more crucial. As the quid pro quo for allowing the Maastricht rules to be bent out of recognition, Britain and others should now force a serious debate on the Stability Pact. This is the system of sanctions proposed by Germany to impose long-term economic discipline on countries which have skewed policy purely towards meeting arbitrary criteria on an arbitrary deadline.

Unfortunately for those of us who believe that the single currency will wreak untold havoc on the European economies without proper economic convergence — even if that is possible — there are already signs of backsliding as the German Government falls over itself to appease France. Just a week ago, Bonn said that it could relax the Stability Pact for countries suffering exceptional hardship or natural disaster. It looks like another slice of Euro-fudge to sweeten the road to 1999. Isn't Britain entitled to question whether all this is the recipe for stability in Europe which Germany and France so insistently claim?

BUSINESS LETTERS

EU threats are the wrong way to persuade Britain to join single currency

From Mr Selwyn Hodson-Pressinger

Sir, I refer to reports of further EU scare tactics to coerce the UK into adopting the single currency (ref George Sivell's article in *The Times*, September 3, "London Eye on Frankfurt talks"; and ref George Brock's article "British Bankers fear banishment from exclusive money club", *The Times* September 2).

Many like myself who worked alternately in the City and in the mainland Europe in recent years had grown to appreciate the merits of a common currency. It was something the mark was already fast resembling, being Europe's common currency by reference. For this reason many were initially enthusiastic about a single currency, which seemed a logical progression from the common currency.

However, the full implications of EMU and the difficulties arising from Maastricht's timetable for the imposition of a single currency give genuine cause for concern. To maintain the present momentum

for currency union looks increasingly impracticable in view of prevailing economic conditions.

This is surely not the manner in which to defend the Franco-German axis and the cause of European integration. Similarly, EU recent threats to diminish London's standing as a European financial centre and exclude our bankers from a future "euro-zone" if we fail to adopt the single currency (ref articles by George Brock and George Sivell, *The Times*, September 2 and 3) is the wrong manner of persuasion.

Civil engineers are really good at boring

From Mr Brian Locke

Sir, re: City Diary, August 22 and Business Letters, August 25.

As a "supporter" of the world's first under-river tunnel (Thames, Rotherhithe 1825-1843, Brunel, father & son), and having slightly helped energy aspects of the world's latest/longest, Channel Tunnel — may I suggest

that our civil engineers are the opposite of boring, but very good at doing it.

The world, and the City, should indeed be grateful to them.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN LOCKE,
Cadogan Consultants,
Cadogan Grange,
Bisley, Stroud,
Gloucestershire.

Sadly, EMU was not on the agenda of the last intergovernmental conference, but events may well ensure it receives the serious attention it deserves by the next IGC.

As for issues set out in the UK Government's last White Paper on Europe, they are clearly too important to be traded off lightly during any IGC negotiations. The UK must ensure its prime objective is generally understood: to remain a European partner, but only on terms that are acceptable.

Britain's future IGC negotiations would clearly benefit from the threat of a British plebiscite on the country's continued full membership of the EU, not just on the single currency issue.

Such a sword of Damocles hanging over future IGC proceedings should ensure UK interests were properly protected, and be a counter to current EU coercive behaviour.

Yours faithfully,
SELWYN HODSON-PRESSINGER,
4 Lyall Street,
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Dividend per share 4.0p

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● Concentration on operational margins

● Strong Cash Flow at business level

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THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 1996

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MPUS
ing forecast

Shares squeezed higher in thin trade

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Bank of America	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Bank of America	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Bank of America	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Bank of America	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Bank of America	98.50	+1.5	18.5

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

CHEMICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

DISTRIBUTORS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

HEALTHCARE

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

MEDIA

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

PHARMACEUTICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

SUPPORT SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

PRINTING & PAPER

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

TEXTILES & APPAREL

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
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100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

TRANSPORT

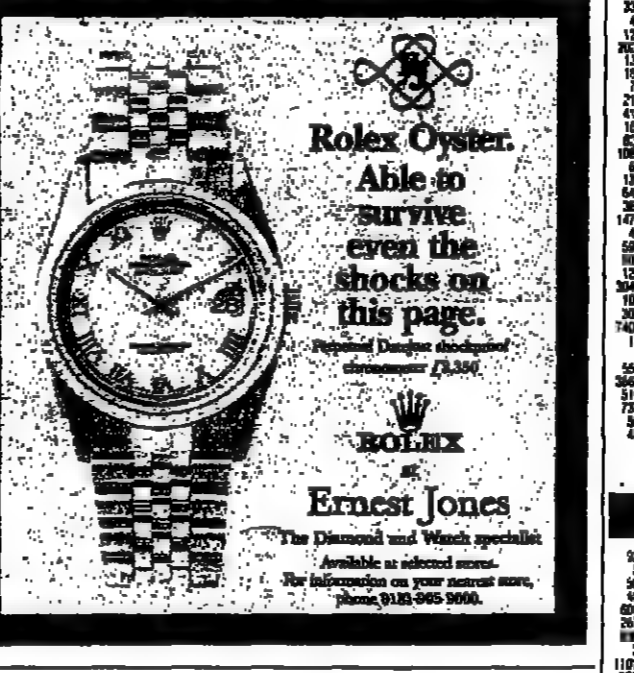
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RETAILERS, FOOD

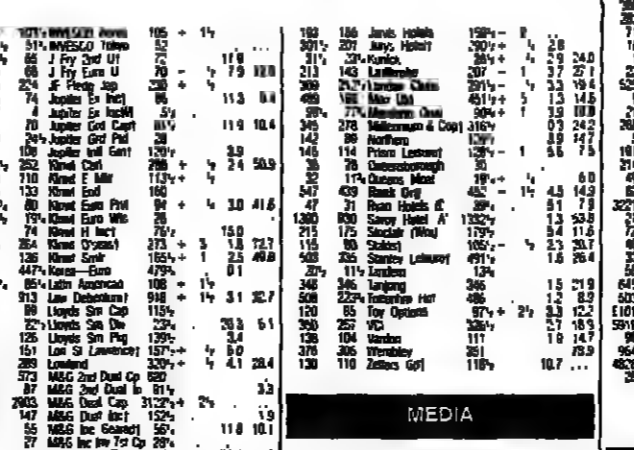
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105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price	%	P/E
120	118	Alfred Dunhill	119.50	+1.5	18.5
115	113	Alfred Dunhill	113.50	+1.5	18.5
110	108	Alfred Dunhill	108.50	+1.5	18.5
105	103	Alfred Dunhill	103.50	+1.5	18.5
100	98	Alfred Dunhill	98.50	+1.5	18.5



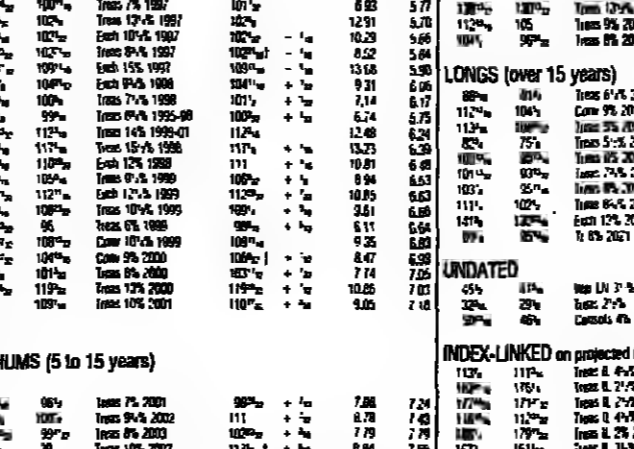
Rolex Oyster
Able to survive
even the shocks on
this page.
Ernest Jones



BRITISH FUNDS



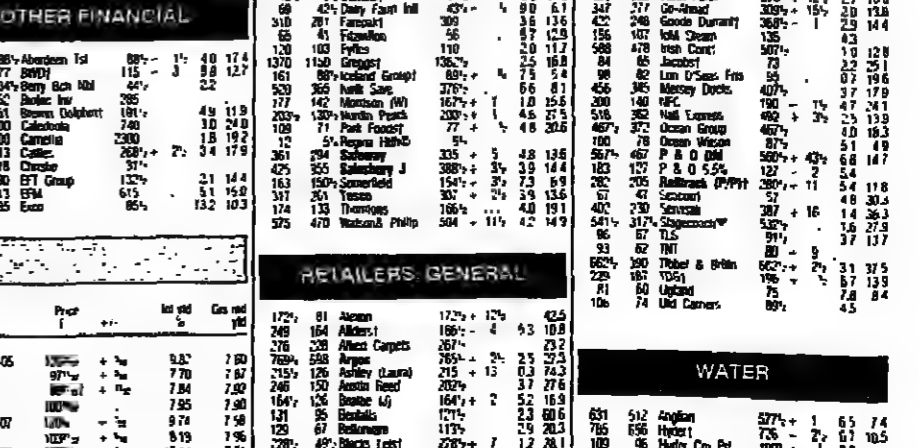
LONGS



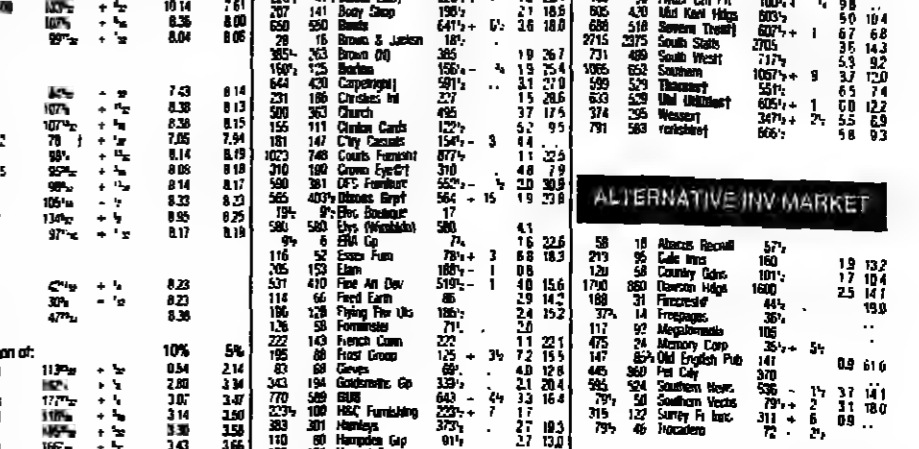
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RETAILERS GENERAL



ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET



WATER

EDUCATION

Peter and Lynne Boundy explain how they supported their son through university despite having minimal income

When parents are on the breadline

Life as we knew it changed in September 1992. Until then we had enjoyed a comfortable, middle-class existence with few financial worries. We were cruising towards retirement with the prospect of a decent pension some time in the next decade and our children were almost off our hands, three down, one to go. Then we became the victims of downsizing and rationalisation. In a word, redundancy. Suddenly we became the *nouveaux pauvres*, the downwardly mobile, a statistic in the unemployment figures.

Fortunately our three older offspring were independent at this stage, having experienced their entry into higher education during our more affluent period. Unfortunately, for Simon, the youngest, the start of his university career coincided with this poverty-stricken period in our lives.

Filling in the grant form was not difficult. Income nil, expenditure unlimited. I exaggerate — we had state benefits of £70-odd a week but that barely covered all the insurance premiums we had been paying in our pre-unemployment days. So he was awarded a grant, enough to pay for his accommodation; the student

him being saddled with debts at the end of his four years of study. In the event, we must pay tribute to the university's accommodation services department which had allocated the students to their particular flats. Despite their evident wealth, as we later appreciated, those students who don't qualify for a grant are often under similar financial pressures when their parents are struggling to keep them, and perhaps another son or daughter at university. Living in a student flat can be a great leveller, and they shared similar ideals and interests which turned out to be more important in forming friendships than any material considerations.

During that first year he subsisted with his grant and student loan. Obsessed as we were at home with our own problems of managing on state benefits, of wondering how we were going to pay the next bill, both of us coping with the added responsibility of a severely ill parent, we had little time for our youngest son. Apart from the weekly phone call in which he always assured us he was managing, we left him to his own devices. In some ways our lives were running parallel, all of us struggling to survive at barely subsistence level. And at least he was having fun.

'We envisaged him being saddled with debts at the end'

The end of the first year, notwithstanding end-of-year exams and partying, is taken up with finding accommodation for the second year with amenable flatmates, and most importantly in Simon's case, the search for a flat. Simon's situation was not ideal. He was living in a rooming house, a considerable sum in the form of a poverty-stricken student but in the eyes of a majority of landlords is seen as fair game and extra bonus on top of the often exploitative rents charged.

We have become conversant with most of the remedies in the House of Commons, mostly of the removal of beer stains, burn marks, filling in holes in the plaster variety, and last year he and his flatmates were successful in retrieving their deposit. A further expense which is not built into the grants system is the fact that, in order to be assured of reasonable accommodation with like-minded friends, it appears to be

necessary to find, and pay rent for, the following year's flat throughout the whole of the summer vacation. Working during the summer is *de rigueur* for the majority of students, and no less so for our son. The Benefits Agency was adamant we were not entitled to anything extra for the additional adult living with us for the three months of the summer vacation.

A short-term maintenance job in a local factory provided Simon with the means to enable him to keep up his rent payments on his flat and to go out with his mates occasionally, but it was more than a little guilt-inducing for us to feel we could do so little to support him. While so many of his peers were backpacking or just package-holidaying, he had to stay at home for lack of funds.

Illness is an inevitable consequence of living on a starvation diet and burning the candle at both ends



Down but not out: Peter and Lynne Boundy managed to send their youngest son Simon to Edinburgh, in spite of the trauma of unemployment

and it therefore came as no surprise to us to get a phone call in the first term of his second year, saying: "Mum, I'm in hospital."

Our son, who had never had a day's absence from school, had developed an abscess in his throat which had to be drained as it was constricting his swallowing. His primary concern was the exam he had to take in two days' time. With strict instructions from his mother to inform his tutor that he was taking the exam under the influence of powerful drugs (of the medicinal variety) and was feeling less than well, he duly sat the exam. We took great comfort in the caring nature of his flatmates who visited him in hospital and kept us informed by phone of his progress.

His second year has been equally stressful financially. Despite his lack of money, he has enjoyed a social life and maintained his circle of more affluent friends. The vaca-

tion will have to be spent earning enough money to pay his rent throughout the summer. We are in the world of employment once more and are gradually getting back on to a more stable financial footing. At least the threat of repossession no longer haunts us. Whatever small amount we are able to send him when the odd upturn in our luck occurs is always gratefully received, though this is a rare event.

Would we have wished him to live at home and attend a local university, which is perhaps a tendency that will be encouraged in the future? No. Leaving home and learning to mix with others is an essential step in the moulding of a young person's character and where better to do this than in an academic environment where he or she will be exposed to challenging and stimu-

lating ideas? How has he benefited? Apart from having the good fortune to spend four years in a beautiful city, he has met people whom we suspect will remain lifelong friends. He has learnt to manage his money and his time, but above all, he is learning to survive in circumstances which he may very well have to cope with in an uncertain economic future and a flexible job market.

The authors have two sons and two daughters. The three older ones are earning their own living, while the youngest is currently studying politics and history at Edinburgh University. Abridged from a chapter in a book, *It's Quite an Education: Supporting Your Son or Daughter Through University*, published this month by the Unit for Innovation in Higher Education (The Times Higher Education Supplement, priced £7.95). For further details contact the IHE Unit, Lonsdale College, Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4YN. Tel 01524 65201 ext 4522.

Freshers' guide to surviving college

Students pass on some financial tips

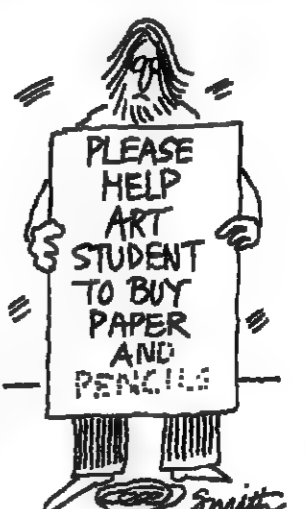
With the new term only a few weeks away, this is the time when all students, particularly freshers, will be thinking about how they are going to make the most of what will be very limited finances. *David Godley writes*. They will have to learn how to survive, study and have a good time without incurring the wrath of their bank manager.

Speaking from personal experience, I know it is possible to do all three without having to rob a bank. Admittedly, studying at Oxford means that eight-week terms, coupled with lower than average accommodation costs, have saved me (so far) from the financial nightmare that many students experience.

Yes, even with a full loan and grant, I still ended my second year £900 overdrawn. For many, a grant, loan and interest-free overdraft will not be enough. Some may have to take a part-time job to supplement their income and others will have to tap into the reserves of various college hardship funds, not to mention asking mum and dad for a five or two.

Attending college in the 1990s is an expensive business, but financial hardship need not mean the end of the world: the important thing for all students to remember is that if you encounter difficulties don't suffer in silence. Talk to someone, preferably your bank manager. As a student, you are at a premium because the bank wants to keep your custom. They know that in a few years you may be a wealthy customer.

By taking a few early steps now, you can pre-empt any difficulties so here are a few tips to help you on your way:



□ If possible ask friends or relatives who have been to college how they coped and then shop around to find the best deal — do not be tempted by gimmicks.

□ Try to find a sympathetic bank manager — one who, if necessary, will increase your overdraft limit should things get tough.

□ Resist the temptation to use a credit card — they were not designed to fund a student lifestyle.

□ Check out whether the college has a welfare fund. If so then use it. That is what it is for.

□ And last, do not let money worries spoil your time at university. These days should be the best of your life, so live them to the full.

Students would receive nearly twice the current maintenance grant if it had risen in line with inflation over the past 20 years. *James Ashton writes*.

Vice-chancellors estimate that students embarking on a three-year degree course this autumn will owe £5,485 in loans plus interest, when they graduate in 1999. Those in Scotland, where a four-year degree is standard, will owe £7,811 in 2000.

Students who have yet to apply for a maintenance grant can still obtain forms from their sixth-form college or local education authority. The grant is confirmed on acceptance of an offer from a university or college and can be collected in termly instalments from the establishment.

Undergraduates can borrow a maximum of £1,645 per year (£2,035 in London) from the Student Loans Company. Repayment is delayed until the April following graduation, and then only if the borrower's earnings exceed the current threshold of £15,200.

The Student Loans Company can be contacted free on 0800 428010.

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

FIVE CLASSIC CARS TO BE WON

Plus every entrant will receive an exclusive limited-edition Classic Sports Car First Day Cover FREE



The cars given as prizes will be of the same make but not necessarily the same model as those used in the Royal Mail stamps or the photographs, shown here. The prizes include delivery anywhere in the British Isles. Each car will be in good order, with a new MOT certificate and will have been inspected by an experienced mechanic

HOW TO ENTER

START collecting tokens in *The Times* today and you could win one of five classic sports cars. The competition, in association with *The Sunday Times* and the Royal Mail, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the British motor industry by giving readers the chance to win one of the following five cars:

- Triumph TR3A, 1960
- MG TC, 1949
- Morgan Plus Four
- Jaguar XK 120, 1948
- Austin Healey 100/4, 1954

PLUS, every reader of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* entering our competition can receive an exclusive, limited-edition First Day Cover, with details of five classic marques of postwar sports cars, free of charge.

• If you are a *Times* reader you can enter by sending a completed form (another will appear on Saturday) with the token in *The Sunday Times* next Sunday, September 15 and seven differently numbered tokens from *The Times*. Readers of *The Sunday Times* need two tokens printed on Sunday September 8 and 15 and three differently numbered tokens from *The Times*.

FREE limited-edition first day covers

Royal Mail marks British motoring's celebration of two centuries this year with a set of five special stamps to be launched on Tuesday, October 1, ranging in denominations from 20p to 63p. There is more to a stamp than just an attractive design as 60 million collectors know. An Edward VII sixpenny stamp issued in March 1904 and overprinted with the words IR OFFICIAL, is worth about £85,000 in mint condition.

• Presentation packs, first day covers, postcards, and the Classic Sports Car stamps are available by post from the British Philatelic Bureau: call 0345 641 641 (Mon-Fri); and most Post Offices — for more details call 0345 22 33 44. First day covers are also available from BPCPA: 0181 586 6744



CHANGING TIMES

New glass university is Lincoln's pride

The first university to be built in a city centre for more than 25 years opens its doors this month and the race is on to finish it and to fill it with students.

Lincoln University campus got the final go-ahead only after this year's UCAS applications round had begun so there are plenty of places available for students.

The university is rapidly emerging from a building site as a £32 million state-of-the-art glass building. There can be no mistake that Lincoln has finally got its university.

Lincoln University campus is, strictly speaking, part of the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside, but try telling that to the people of the city who have fought long and hard for their university.

Arthur Ridings, associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor, said: "There has been a tremendous effort in Lincolnshire to raise money to build this university. The local community has made this happen. We have waited so very long. There is now an intense anticipation of the economic, social and cultural benefits for Lincoln."

As Mr Ridings walked around the four-storey waterside building last week, he was visibly excited. The three lecture theatres were not finished and all the rooms were bare and uncarpeted, but it still looked very impressive with its banks of glass study rooms.

The building sits on 360 great pillars which help to make it virtually soundproof and the inside temperature is constantly controlled. The

Campus opens with places to spare for this year's students

views are staggering. Mr Ridings looked out of a giant wall of glass and pointed at Lincoln Cathedral.

He said: "Roger Gough, the Vice-Chancellor, looked down from there six years ago and had a vision. Now we are standing in it. This is a university for the millennium, equipped for the challenge of life in the 21st century."

"We are different from other universities because we have everything. Brand new systems will support learning and everything is state-of-the-art. We do not need to bolt anything on because we are the cutting edge of learning and technology."

The university's commitment to information technology and ties with local business are second to none and this is good news to students worried about employment prospects.

The business community has been in on the project from the start. Back in 1990 the local branch of the Confederation of British Industry called for the establishment of a university in Lincoln to act as a manager for industry and to stop the brain drain of bright Lincolners to other university towns.

Business leaders set up a project company and finally, in the early spring of 1995, they came to an agreement

with the University of Humberside.

Deborah Hirst, 18, from Huddersfield, is thrilled that she will be one of the first students at the new university. Deborah decided to accept Lincoln's offer of a place on their international tourism course after visiting the city in March.

She will be staying in one of the seven halls of residence that look more like holiday villas than student accommodation. She says: "It's really exciting. The location is brilliant. I haven't been on to the campus but I could see it being built."

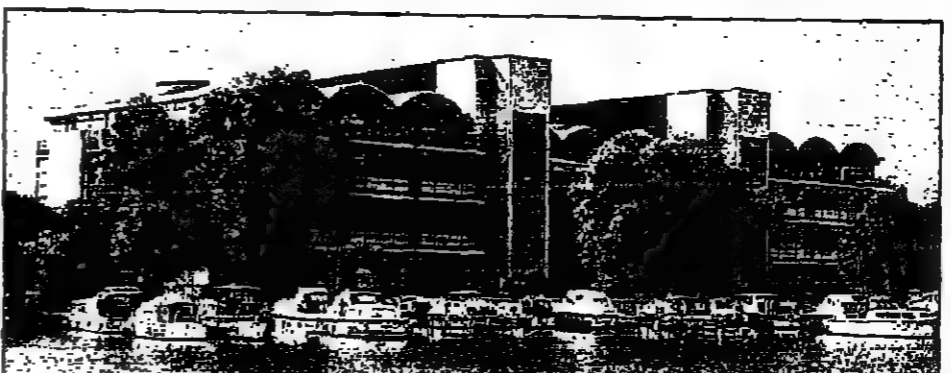
"They showed us videos and pamphlets and it looked amazing. It's very important to me to have good study areas with lots of light and Lincoln has that."

"I also want to continue studying information technology and that is the central focus of the university. It's very modern. It really appeals to me to make a new start at a new university."

International tourism is one of a wide choice of degree subjects which the university plans to expand over the next five years. In 1996 students can choose between criminology, health studies, humanities, international studies and management. Next year the law school opens and will be accompanied by a host of other options.

There are still undergraduate places available through clearing and the university is advertising widely to attract the right students.

CHRISTOPHER HADLEY



On the waterfront: the state-of-the-art Lincoln University, overlooking a marina

هكذا من الأصل

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■ FILM 1

At the Venice Festival, Neil Jordan carries off the Golden Lion with *Michael Collins*



■ FILM 2

... while Jane Campion offers a strange Henry James adaptation, *The Portrait of a Lady*

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ MUSIC 1

Why classical composers such as Sir Peter Maxwell Davies don't win the Mercury Prize



■ MUSIC 2

The Chicago Symphony shows its mettle under Daniel Barenboim in Birmingham

VENICE FILM FESTIVAL: David Robinson is as bemused as ever by the perversity of a cinema jury's decisions

Floored by an Irish patriot

A film festival jury is an unpredictable animal. With ice-cream or ballroom dancing everything is out and dried and categorised (technique, artistic interpretation and the rest). Films, and opinions about them, are not so tidy. Even if you can confidently second-guess which films are likely to seduce the individual jury members (this year they included Roman Polanski, Anjelica Huston, the American writer Paul Auster and the father of African cinema, Souleymane Cissé), their collective decisions often surprise themselves as much as anyone else.

No one, for instance, really expected that the Venice Golden Lion would go to the Irish-American entry, *Michael Collins*, directed by Neil Jordan. Without question it is an exemplary piece of filmcraft, with sweep and colour, a taut script and solid acting, but neither as biopic nor as political drama does it pretend to the kind of originality and innovation for which one hopes at Venice. For an international audience this story of an Irish freedom fighter does not even have the political piquancy with which it teases the British. Liam Neeson's Best Actor prize for his performance in the title role must have slightly consoled him for having spent most of the festival in a Parma hospital having an intestinal obstruction cleared.

The award of the Best Actress prize to four-year-old Victoire Thivisol — who becomes the youngest person ever to win a festival prize, for her playing of the title role in Jacques Doillon's *Polette* — was widely regarded as perverse, with such actresses as Julia Roberts, Isabella Rossellini and several more exotic stars in the running.

Still, the prize justly acknowledges that the child could not have produced a performance of such startling conviction without long hours of concentration, acute instinct — and, we are reassured, a psychiatrist in constant attendance. *Polette* loses her mother in a car accident, and the film shows her solitary means of dealing with the catastrophe, by denying it.

The runner-up prizes always give away the films that figured in the jury's final, toughest wrangles. The maverick Georgian, Otar Ioseliani, took the Special Grand Prix of the Jury for *Brigade*, "for its brilliant irony and bitter comment on the misuse of Utopia". Funny, sardonic and a shade too long, Ioseliani's philosophical fantasy

moves the same group of characters through different periods of history — the "chivalrous" Middle Ages, the revolution, the Stalinist era, the chaos and ethnic warring of the Nineties.

The Mexican Arturo Ripstein's *Deep Crimson* took three prizes, for script, design and music. Perhaps the most original director currently at work in Latin America, Ripstein presents a tough, blackly comic picture of the *amour fou* of a plump, plain woman and an ageing gigolo who embark on a murderous partnership.

Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady* would undoubtedly have set the jury a challenge; but it was shown out of competition. Its reception was mixed, with some critics ready to claim it as the best film so far by the director of *An Angel at My Table* and *The Piano*, and others roundly booing it at the

6 Neil Jordan's film does not have the originality one hopes for at Venice

press show. It is ultimately a bewildering film, with strange stylistic choices to set against undoubted merits. Laura Jones's script is a faithful and intelligent distillation of Henry James's portrait of his most intriguing heroine, Isabel Archer, "affronting her destiny", spurning promising suitors only to commit herself to a wretched mismatch. The major concession to 20th-century feminism is to put a slightly more optimistic slant on Isabel's last edit. When Isabel places her hand on the door latch, Campion seems less sure than James that it is to return to Rome and her awful marriage.

The cast, with Nicole Kidman as Isabel, John Malkovich as her husband and Barbara Hershey as the sinister other woman, Madame Merle, is impeccable and (with John Gielgud, Shelley Winters and Shelley Duvall in distinguished support) make up a fine group portrait of these Victorian Americans abroad.

What is puzzling is why Campion has chosen to play the dialogue in

monotonously unvaried rhythm and tone and to shoot the conversational scenes in dark, closely composed close-ups. No less odd is the way these dialogue scenes are punctuated by scenic interludes which often seem quite perfunctory in the editing. The suspicion lingers that she has overcompensated in her eagerness to avoid the decorative comforts of a Merchant-Ivory literary classic.

Other Australasian directors came to Venice with first films that are evidently bound for instant success. Scott Hicks's *Shine* is the touching real-life story of the Australian pianist David Helfgott (played by Geoffrey Rush), whose career was interrupted by a decade in mental institutions. Two great actors personify the father-figures in his life: Armin Mueller-Stahl plays his real father, a Polish Jew whose Holocaust experiences left him with a destructive obsession to keep the family under one roof. As his surrogate father, a tutor at the Royal College of Music, John Gielgud offers a stunning interpretation of the teacher-student bond.

Love and Other Catastrophes, a first film by 23-year-old Emma-Kate Croghan, started out as a no-budget film, ended up with modest completion funding from the Australian Film Commission and is already selling well around the world. On the surface it is just a daft college film, with the usual heartbreaks, flammages and clashes with academia. But Croghan has the advantage of a passion for Thirties Hollywood screwball comedy, and her film is full of clever movie references.

From Britain, Ken Loach's *Carla's Song* was awarded a Gold Medal of the President of the Senate of the Italian Republic, as "a film which emphasises civil progress and human solidarity". Like Loach's *Land and Freedom* it is the story of a British working man who gets involved with the left-wing struggle in a distant land — in this case an independent-minded Glasgow bus driver is inspired by an encounter with a young refugee to fly to

Eighties Nicaragua. Other films asserted peculiarly British qualities. Philip Goodhew's debut feature, *Intimate Relations*, revises another of those news sensations of the 1950s that British film-makers love: the conviction of Harold Guppy, a none-too-bright but probably innocent seaman (admirably played by Rupert



Nicole Kidman in Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady*, which drew both boos and applause

Graves) for the murder of a sexually possessive landlady (Julie Walters).

At the other end of the social scale, Ferdinand Fairfax's *True Blue* is (though the makers strenuously deny it) in the tradition of *Chariots of Fire*, with muscles and music straining together. Based on the book by the veteran Oxford

boat crew trainer Daniel Topolaki, the film dramatises the famous attempted mutiny of 1987, fomented by a nucleus of American rowers incautiously imported to improve Oxford's chances.

At festivals there is no film without at least some champions: even the latest Jean-Luc Godard, *For Ever Mozart*, received a prize

from some obscure movie magazine. Godard dispatches a group of his usual bizarre, abstract characters into wartime Sarajevo, where amid the gunfire and atrocities, they plan to mount a play.

Godard even presented the world premiere in Sarajevo; as if, someone said, they didn't have enough trouble already.

Truly poetic and vulgar

WHEN it comes to comparing such high-quality ensembles as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic — all three of which have been heard in Britain in the last three or four weeks — it becomes a matter not so much of how they play as of how they are made to play. With orchestras like that a good conductor can achieve just about anything. But neither Christoph von Dohnányi nor Kurt Masur achieved anything as wonderfully effective as did Daniel Barenboim in Elgar's *Falstaff* with the Chicago Symphony.

Following an itinerary which, with any luck, will become more or less standard for visiting orchestras of this kind, the Chicago Symphony is in Britain to give concerts in Symphony Hall, at the Proms and in the new Bridgewater Hall. For Birmingham and Manchester — mindful, no doubt, of his early experience in this country, not least his relationship with Barbirolli in the Sixties — Barenboim has armed his orches-

CONCERT
Chicago Symphony Orchestra/Barenboim
Birmingham

tra not only with *Falstaff* but also with two Elgar encores. They play these scores as though they had been brought up with them, if without the bad habits.

The Chicago *Falstaff* is outstanding in its characterisation: it is as alive to the poetic nostalgia as to the vulgarities, to the pastoral idyll as to the bawling, to the pathos as to the swagger. And yet it was all achieved by scrupulous attention to the letter of the score, with no exaggeration or distortion. Except in one or two passages overloaded by the brass in the early stages, balance was so well adjusted and so firmly sustained that there was a fascinatingly abundant accumulation of detail — always precisely observed and in proportion to the main thrust of the interpretation. This was a *Falstaff* as true in its colouring, as vividly realised in its textures, as compassionate in its emotional motivation as anyone, surely, could wish to hear.

Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony after the interval provoked the encores and got the audience to its feet, a brilliant performance lacking neither in commitment nor, in spite of the occasional wobble, in supreme orchestral skill.

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Off the beaten tracks

Helen Wallace, a Mercury Music Prize judge, on why awards go to pop stars, never classical musicians



Only by adopting an album-friendly format can Peter Maxwell Davies (left) and James MacMillan succeed

Because it was not the best British composition of the year we were judging, but the best album — and that is the point at which the two musical worlds part company.

Pop grew up with the recording industry in a symbiotic relationship. Albums are made as artistic entities; an album is the result of a creative partnership between the band and a producer; albums feed live gigs.

Yet classical music has never quite come to terms with the album. A concert is a concert which presents a menu of contrasting forms, styles and often time-periods. A CD is a document of record. Compilation discs may be legion but crafted, programmed albums are rare.

Composers do not write with an album in mind, they

ach 70-plus minutes of one unfamiliar composer. And who can blame them?

The irony is that it is this laudable commitment to a few composers that has prevented more British music from being imaginatively marketed. Companies locked into deals cannot break their exclusive contracts to combine works by three or four composers and make a well-programmed disc like the many successful collections issued of Scandinavian and Russian music.

Yet British classical music is in a golden age close on the heels of established figures Goehr, Maw, Diana Burrell, Judith Weir, Sally Beamish, Colin and David Matthews are newcomers Julian Anderson, Gavin Thomas, Thomas Adès, David Horne — how many years do we have to wait to hear their music? Must we rely on the smallest independent labels such as NMC, who could not even afford to risk the £150 it costs to enter an album in the Mercury Music Prize competition?

There is a lesson to be learnt from previous shortlisted entries. Taverner's *Protecting Veil* was coupled with Britten's Third Cello Suite; James MacMillan's *Seven Last Words* began life as a BBC Radio commission to run in six or seven-minute slots; Maxwell Davies's two works operate as suites. All the above are, to an extent, entities which suit the album format.

There is an audience for classical albums out there. And somewhere between the earnest document of record and the cheap compilation there is an imaginative album that truly represents the eclectic spirit of the age waiting to be made. Not just for the Mercury Prize: for all of us.

● The Mercury Music Prize is on

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

VERDI'S *RIGOLETTO*
reviewed by
John Stane

FOR A long time now, *Rigoletto* on records has meant, first and foremost, Gobbi and Callas. They made their famous recording in 1955, with Serafin conducting the orchestra and chorus of La Scala. It came from what we now see as the classic combination assembled at the period of its prime. Gobbi's performance in the title role is still supreme; vivid and deeply moving, in just the way Verdi wanted and, despite some roughness of style, beautiful and irreplaceable in the sheer quality of his voice. Callas's singing is a triumph of the chameleon's art: the role is not hers by nature, but she adapts both herself and the conventional idea of it and creates something new. The recording has its place in the library, now as ever. But for *Rigoletto*, the full score with its realisation distributed evenly among all the participants, we need to look elsewhere.

I make for the 1980 recording under Giulini (DG 415 288-2, 2 CD, £23.95). There are plenty of others to consider, among them a version from 1971 with Sutherland, Pavarotti and Milnes, conducted by Bonynge. Muti's "live" recordings won't do, I find: partly a matter of the singing, partly of his own rigid approach. Among individual performances one could point to the touching Gilda of Alida Ferrarini in a recent bargain-label issue, and indeed to the



oldest in date (1928) and youngest-sounding of all, Lina Pagliughi; the *Rigoletto* of Fischer-Dieskau is also in a class of its own. And perhaps it is worth mentioning that the English National Opera version with the original cast of the Jonathan Miller production is not currently available or that would certainly be up for consideration.

The great merit of the Giulini recording is that it plumbs the work's depth. The cast is distinguished and works at a high level. Cotrubas is probably the best Gilda on record: her imagination catching just that balance of fragility and strength which the role requires. Domingo as the Duke brings a glory of tone along with genuine commitment and aristocracy of presence. Cappuccelli's *Rigoletto* avoids any cheapening touch, and Gheorghiu's Sparafucile is also worth going some distance to hear. Above all, it is the sense of the direction that counts. The Vienna Philharmonic plays superbly, the recording has both warmth and clarity, while the old melodrama renews its energies and discovers a new dignity.

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barby Road, London W10 6BL or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bld@mail.bogo.co.uk

فَكَذًا مِنَ الْأَصْلِ



■ VISUAL ART 1

An astonishing revelation of a 'lost' culture, as the British Museum assembles Chinese treasures



■ VISUAL ART 2

Snapper reborn: the celebrity photographs of Ronny Jaques go on show in London

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

A taste for the fantastical: Paul Rumsey's charcoal drawings take over where Goya left off

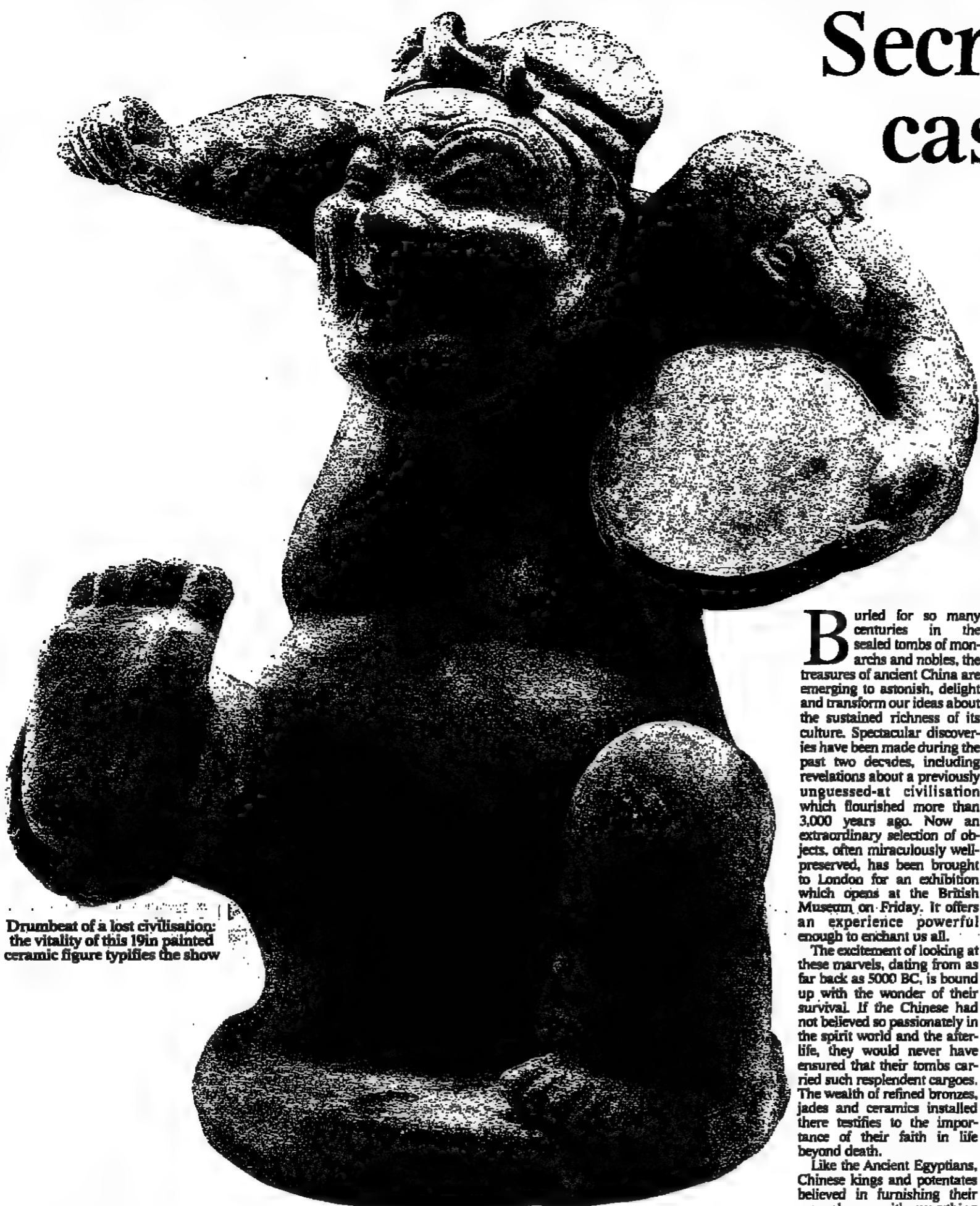


■ TOMORROW

Rosa Mannion on playing the courtesan in Jonathan Miller's staging of *La Traviata*

Richard Cork on the breathtaking array of Oriental treasures now assembled at the British Museum

Secrets of the tomb cast new light on Ancient China



Drumbeat of a lost civilisation: the vitality of this 19th painted ceramic figure typifies the show

But even less is known about the bronzes, gold fragments, jades and elephant tusks discovered in two large pits at Sanxingdui in 1986. The outstanding quality of this hoard startled archaeologists. Nothing like them had been unearthed by the Chinese before and no direct reference to the peoples who produced them, between 1200 and 1000 BC, has survived.

Out of the blue, the existence of a highly sophisticated culture was revealed, forcing historians to revise all their ideas about China's civilisation at that time. It was an enthralling discovery, made unforgettable above all by the tall, commanding bronze of a priest-like figure with outsize hands. Illustrated and discussed in *The Times* arts pages yesterday, this hieratic man presides with absolute authority over the room devoted to Sanxingdui treasures. But other discoveries in the same pits are scarcely less remarkable. Take the hallucinatory bronze mask, its mouth widened in a mirthless grin. Just as its wing-like ears suggest superhuman hearing, so the aggressively bulging pupils of its eyes seem to possess telescopic vision. As for the scroll-shaped projection coiling up from the mask's nose, it rises in the air like a fantastic, extended antenna. Here is a creature apparently dedicated to surveillance, its grotesque features conveying a gruesome warning to anyone who strays within its sights.

This mask, along with a hawk-like bronze bird with a vicious beak, shows Chinese art at its most pugnacious. But once we move away from the sinister mysteries of Sanxingdui, gentler moods assert themselves. An impressive ivory vessel from the late Shang period has a handle carved in the shape of a bird strikingly similar to the hawk-like bronze predator. This time, though, both vessel and handle are enlivened by incised lines and delightful decorations of turquoise inlay, giving the object a festive feeling.

Displayed near by is a rectangular cauldron from the same period, found in pieces on a scrapheap in Hunan province and featuring large, plump human faces on all four sides. Gazing out of borders festooned with small claws and horns, they resemble moons or suns and exude a fleshy benevolence.

As we go deeper into the era dominated by the great dynasties, so the diversity becomes ever more surprising and delightful. At one extreme a lacquered wooden box, decorated with scenes of music and dance, is carved in the shape of a beguilingly naturalistic duck. Since it was found in the coffin of a woman buried near the Marquis Yi of Zeng, the box probably served as a luxurious cosmetics container.

At the other extreme, an utterly bizarre carving of an imaginary creature was excavated from another tomb in Hubei province. The oldest extant tree-root carving in China, this spindly apparition may have been a tomb guardian — yet it is far from sedentary. Four bamboo legs propel the body forward, accentuating the menace in its tiger-like face, burning orange eyes and bared fangs. The sculptor's fantasy is given even fuller rein at the tops of the legs where devouring snakes, a lizard and a microscopic cicada show how avidly Chinese artists drew their inspiration from nature.

Such images are so vivacious that it would be easy to forget their funerary origins. Even the full-length clay soldier, lone representative of the

er holding a spade and shovel seems to concentrate all his energy on the act of filling the soil.

In the end, though, the most consistent thread binding the incredible variety of this exhibition together is its limitless energy. Near the exit, a painted ceramic figure of a squatting entertainer proves irresistible. Beating the drum cradled under a hefty arm, he thrusts out his right leg with a surge of gleeful vitality and grins with impish zest. And we, despite feeling dazed by so many of the many revelations in this spell-binding show, find his rush of merriment impossible to resist.

■ *Mysteries of Ancient China*, sponsored by The Times, opens at the British Museum on Friday and continues to Jan 5. Admission £5; bookings 0171-420 0000

TOMORROW
Richard Cork continues his daily series on Chinese artefacts with a discussion of a sculpture of a head discovered at Sanxingdui

Buried for so many centuries in the sealed tombs of monarchs and nobles, the treasures of ancient China are emerging to astonish, delight and transform our ideas about the sustained richness of its culture. Spectacular discoveries have been made during the past two decades, including revelations about a previously unguessed-at civilisation which flourished more than 3,000 years ago. Now an extraordinary selection of objects, often miraculously well-preserved, has been brought to London for an exhibition which opens at the British Museum on Friday. It offers an experience powerful enough to enchant us all.

The excitement of looking at these marvels, dating from as far back as 5000 BC, is bound up with the wonder of their survival. If the Chinese had not believed so passionately in the spirit world and the after-life, they would never have ensured that their tombs carried such resplendent cargoes. The wealth of refined bronzes, jades and ceramics installed there testifies to the importance of their faith in life beyond death.

Like the Ancient Egyptians, Chinese kings and potentates believed in furnishing their mausoleums with everything the corpse might need on its journey to the hereafter. But they went further than the Egyptians, who often contented themselves with models. Chinese grandees insisted for a long time on taking real statues, vessels and ornaments with them — hence the overwhelming array of exquisite artefacts on display here.

The survey takes a broadly chronological path, starting with the neolithic era. While objects from this period do not reflect the virtuoso technique developed later, many of them possess an amazing expressive intensity. A mask-like face struggles to emerge from a clay jar. The spiralling form of a dragon whirls around a brown earthenware dish, flashing a long bristly tongue from a mouth spiked with jagged teeth. Similar serrations project from a tall ceramic phallus, possibly pointing to a fertility cult flourishing in about 3,000 BC.

Far more sexually ambiguous is the intriguing naked figure about to burst out of a clay vessel. Although the sexual organs are prominent, they lack clarity and may represent an androgynous symbol of a society that advocated the joining of man and woman within the marriage system. Time and again a tantalising lack of evidence prevents scholars from producing clear-cut interpretations. But nothing prevents us from savouring the direct, playful charm of the groups of tiny humans and animals found in Hubei province. Chickens, swallows and dogs mingle blithely with monkeys, turtles and elephants, while the seated humans seem content to rest and meditate.

Nobody has found out what

“A wealth of refined bronzes, jades and ceramics testifies to their faith in the afterlife”

AROUND THE LONDON ART GALLERIES

YOU had assumed that every photographer with a portfolio of long-unseen, totally forgotten photographs of Brando and Murchum had emerged from hiding? Not a bit of it. Up has popped Ronny Jaques at the Special Photographers Gallery. Apparently this was out of the blue: one day a spruce, elderly Canadian walked into the gallery and offered to show his pictures. It emerged that Jaques began his career in Toronto in the Thirties, his studio specialising in theatrical portraits. In the Forties he photographed a lot of jazz greats, and in 1945 became a regular contributor to *Harper's Bazaar*.

Four years later he switched to *Town and Country*, where he stayed for 15 years. As a result, he was assigned to photograph Brando before *Streetcar* had even opened, and stalk fellow photographer Weegee while Weegee was stalking the unit making *Naked City*. Familiar people are usually seen in unfamiliar situations: Bette Davis, for instance, walks her dog by the New York docks.

Special Photographers Gallery, 21 Kensington Park Road, W11 (0171-221 3489) Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 11am-5pm, until Sept 14

■ **THE Wapping Group of Artists** is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary and, greatly daring, is doing so in the West End. The subject is almost exclusively the Thames: the styles mostly conservative, though not necessarily any the worse for that. Here and there a touch of real individuality appears among the followers of the classic English watercolour tradition.

favours a robust, richly coloured style with overtones of Brangwyn. Ronald Maddox, on the other hand, goes in for a crisp, draughtsmanly approach. Most surprising of all is Leonard Bennett, whom the commemorative booklet assures us is a "Post Modernist". What they mean by that is that he used to be a modernist, painting freeform abstractions, but then gave it up. Happily he did not give it up completely, but retained a lot of the vigour, along with the prismatic colour, to glorify the Thames as he sees it and we wish we could.

Chris Beetles Gallery, 8 & 10 Ryder Street, SW1 (0171-839 7429), daily 10am-5.30pm, until Sept 13

■ **WHAT** is it about plastic that makes its essence so hard to catch? Is it true, as the devisers of this show called Plastic suggest, that plastic is always felt to be experienced at one remove, as though standing in for something else? If so, that may well be the very quality that the mostly young artists involved find congenial.

Certainly the most striking works are completely impersonal. Jemima Stehli's *Strawberry and Mint*, for instance, looks like two ready-made plastic hampers with their plastic contents in, of course, elegant shades of mint and strawberry respectively. But they are not. As the immaculate handwork might tell us, these are an existent design scrupulously reproduced by hand in the required colours.

Richard Salmon, *Edwardes Square Studios*, 59 South Edwardes Square, W8 (0171-602 9494) Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, until Sept 17

to know, since one could not guess from his show whether he was young with an old head on his shoulders, or an old-stager with an amazingly youthful spring in his step. Draughtsmanship is the central interest of his career, and the show consists entirely of 40 charcoal drawings of a grotesque and fantastical nature. Clearly Rumsey has taken careful note of Goya in his more sinister and monstrous phases. One suspects

also a youth spent mentally roaming the endless corridors of Gormenghast. Elsewhere there are great organic and apocalyptic scenes teeming with figures, and good pieces of traditional satire.

East West, 8 Blenheim Crescent, W11 (0171-229 7981) Wed-Sat 10am-6pm, until Sept 14

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR



Ronny Jaques's characteristic offbeat photograph of...

"THIS IS THE BEST CHEKHOV I HAVE SEEN"

Sunday Times
DUNCAN C. WELDON
CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

UNCLE VANYA

BY ANTON CHEKHOV
"FAIRLY SHIMMERS WITH THE
SUBLIMINAL EMOTIONS WHICH ARE
THE VERY STUFF OF CHEKHOV"
Daily Mail



FRANCES BARBER
ADAPTED BY
MIKE POULTON
DIRECTED BY
BILL BRYDEN
DESIGNED BY
HAYDEN GRIFFIN
LIGHTING BY
ANDY PHILLIPS
SOUND BY
JOHN A. LEONARD
MUSIC BY
JOHN TAMS

CONSTANCE CUMMINGS
TREVOR EVE
DEREK JACOBI
RICHARD JOHNSON
PEGGY MOUNT
JOHN NORMINGTON
IMOGEN STUBBS
MICHAEL TOMLINSON
DAVID WESTON

ALBURY THEATRE
17 MARTIN LANE, LONDON WC2
BOX OFFICE 0171 369 1730

LIMITED SEASON
17 SEPTEMBER -
16 NOVEMBER 1996

CHOICE 1

Michael Tippett's superb *Rose Lake* is played at the Proms

VENUE: Tonight at the Albert Hall

CHOICE 2

Janet McTeer leads the cast in *Ibsen's A Doll's House*

VENUE: This week at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 1

New plays galore: London's theatres open their doors to the work of young playwrights

THEATRE 2

... while a touring Japanese staging of *Bluebeard's Castle* offers an evening of much enigma

THEATRE: Kate Bassett on a mixed bag at the London New Play Festival. Plus other reviews

Good, bad and ugly

CONRAD BLAKEMORE

The London New Play Festival is looking up, having escaped from its former home — the tiny, sweltering Old Red Lion in Islington. This year, three comparatively swish venues (Young Vic, Riverside and Lyric Hammersmith) have opened their studio doors for the LNPF's month of fully-staged shows and readings, discussions and workshops. Production values are also rising, to judge by the five plays at the Young Vic.

The quality of the scripts selected is still uneven. Sara Clifford's *Tongue-tied* should probably have remained so. This semi-poetic multimedia piece about politically persecuted writers may be worthy but does not hit home. Mina (unmemorable Kumiko Mendel) is, one gleams, a historian refusing to be silenced on the subject of the people's suffering. She is imprisoned in a country the location of which is unclear. It is floating somewhere between the Far and the Middle East, to judge by the costumes, but our jailer's accent lands us in Scotland, Edinburgh in the thrall of some Oriental dictatorship?

Anyway, Mina keeps scrapping words in the dust. She is sucking to her principles but at the expense of her family, neither broken by her interlocking nor leading to the demands of her son who feels neglected (both roles played, without enough distinction, by Elliott Levy).

Shabnam Shabazi's production is visually striking, framed by blackboards scrawled with chalk (fine design by Roswitha Gerlitz). But arthouse style does not compensate for a lack of convincing grit and grief. Choreographed torture, with victims slapping themselves in the face, verges on the silly. Video projection mixes unilluminatingly with overlapping speeches and clinking music.

Far more interesting is Anthony Neilson's macabre comedy, *Hoover Bag*. This killer thriller, with spoof echoes of *Psycho*, is set in a futuristic urban jungle infected with BSE. The streets are crawling with shaking looms (Jimmy Gallagher) and black market gozzers (Martin Hancock) whose suitcases are stashed with beefy bits, sold by the gram but costing you an arm and a leg. Inside a little old lady's council flat, the arm-chairs are disturbingly smothered in Cellophane, gleaming in the mauve light of two insect zappers (design Jo Joelson).

Neilson, directing a strong cast with a sure hand, welds the ridiculously banal with the insane when Stella Tanner's droning wined Velma gets a call from the hereafter. Her



Cas Harkins and Jacqueline Britt in Anthony Neilson's macabre comedy, *Hoover Bag*

son is speaking through the suddenly heavy-breathing Hoover. He wants meat and two veg. Human flesh has to go on the menu. Sick and silly, crazy and occasionally really chilling.

Three short plays have also been grouped together, offering snapshots of gay and lesbian marriages in suburbia. Tim Blackwell's *Thinking Ahead* cuts between two young men contemplating tying the knot with each other. Their monologues progress from anxieties to affirmation but this piece is sentimental and theatrically dull.

Tom Minter's *Semper Suburbia* is about a Californian guy and his preposterously queeny transsexual wife (Ivan Cartwright in tiana) settling down in the Deep South. This piece starts well with neighbours being amusingly prissy from behind slices of white picket fencing. It ends with a full-throttle, high-camp rendition of *When the Saints Go Marching In*. Unfortunately the domestic scene in between falls flat.

No matter. *Maison Splendide* by Laura Bridgeman is a real delight, a ridiculous and nuttily touching two-hander that culminates in a let's-pretend lesbian white wedding. Directed by Sara Clifford, Michelle Buttery and Ursula Lea are a charming, childlike comic duo, dressing up in kitsch Seventies gear, dragging the garden gnomes in as witnesses, and waltzing round the lounge.

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No way to treat a new actress

THE MODERN version of the famous legend has to do with opening doors, with or without the music contributed by Bartók. What lies beyond the doors is beautiful or terrible or the great void, and to ask Bluebeard to turn the key is to invite madness. However, the naive heroine of Shuji Terayama's play has turned the key herself, simply by auditioning for the role of Judith, Wife No. 7, in a theatre rehearsing a production.

Total confusion follows. The actors around her leap from Tennessee Williams to Shakespeare to *Saint Joan*, a play in which the original Bluebeard (Gilles de Rais) appears. Some wives are women, others men and one is a living doll. The decision to act, if I have disentangled the author's intentions, hurries an actor into a labyrinth where every door revolves.

Ho hum. Koharu Kisaragi, who directs the touring revival of this 1978 work for the Tokyo-based Théâtre du Sygne, tells us that it continues to unsettle the placidity of our perception of life and art. My response is to admire her

Bluebeard's Castle

Watermill, Newbury

company's technical expertise but remain unpersuaded that what they do expresses "the enigma of a life possessed with the art of playacting".

So what is it the actors do? Surtitles and a synopsis in the programme give an answer to this but fail to add the reason for doing it. Actors squabble over who shall wear the principal character's fine blue costume, which crafty stitching has made impossible to wear. Possibly the newcomers' brother acted in this same theatre and was stabbed for real by one of the wives. Possibly the same will happen to Wife No. 7 when she is dressed as a bride and lies on an altar/chest/coffin. But probably it won't, even though a dagger goes into her, because this is Theatre.

Candles burning inside the wire frames of the tailor's dummies create an eerily handsome setting. The cast appears to know what Terayama is on about but his play darts about like an eel and I didn't manage to follow it. If your placidity could do with unsettling, the company plays at Riverside Studios from today to Friday.

LUKE CLANCY JEREMY KINGSTON

Trolley full of cut-price cares

GIVE playwright Antoine O'Flaharta a few more years and he will have finished construction work on a small Irish town. His last outing on the Irish stage, *Silverlands*, was set in a provincial ballroom, and for his latest he has moved his theatrical navies across the street to build a supermarket. If O'Flaharta has decided to construct a new Irish theatre, it is obviously going to be from the foundations up.

Strawberries in December underlines O'Flaharta's status as one of the rare writers in Ireland who unwaveringly produce forward-looking theatre. He is also one of the few to reach out to a younger audience. *Strawberries in December*, written for and performed by the National Youth Theatre, is a compact ensemble piece for a young company uncluttered by other bulging egos or any sense of reverence.

Strawberries in December

Peacock, Dublin

After the death of her father, Hazel leaves her bartending job in Spain and returns to Ireland and the family supermarket. Unfortunately, Hazel has inherited none of her old man's enthusiasm for the merchant's calling. This is a serious problem since only bottomless enthusiasm could hope to overcome the dilapidated building, its regiment of ghostly shoppers and a boshie sales staff fixated on pop stardom, alien life and the toxins that niddle every consumer product. The play produces much of its power through a kind of aesthetic ecology, recycling pop and advertising trash into dark auguries of the apocalypse. Every scrap of discarded language has its place

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LONDON

BBC PROMS 96 At 7pm, Andrew Davis conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Sir Michael Tippett's evocation of a Senegalese landscape. The Rose Lake, which is complemented by Schubert's popular Fifth Symphony. Sandwiched between these two works, the 15-year-old violinist Sarah Chang joins the orchestra for Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 1. In a late-night programme (10pm), Philippe Herreweghe conducts the Chœur and Orchestre of Collegium Vocale, Ghent, in a cantata, a motet and a mass by Bach. Albert Hall, Kensington Gore SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight (8).

CELLO RECITAL Julian Lloyd Webber, cello, and Bengt Forsberg, piano. Offer Bach's Adagio in G, Paganini's Elégie and Grieg's Sonata in A minor, interspersed with sonatas, from 1915, by Debussy and Dukas. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm (8).

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT Con O'Neill and Paul Jesson in James Gammon's new play, set in wartime Poland. Directed by John Dove. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 8201). Open tonight, 7pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm. mat, Sat, 3.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON Music Theatre London takes its updated re-imaginings of Don Giovanni and La traviata on tour, for a four-week season at the Odeon Hall, London, from October 29.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Massey

company's *Oliver Award* nominated production of Verdi's *La traviata* will play tonight until Thursday, while its gritty production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* will play on Friday and Saturday. Both operas are translated by Tony Barlow and directed by Nicholas Brook. Theatre Royal, New Road (01273 328489). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. Next in Sheffield, Cradock (0142 769922), Sept 17-21.

BURTON Following its London summer season at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, the New Shakespeare Company takes its production of *Plaint Year Wages* to a further four venues across the country. Some catchy lyrics and some songs are combined with energetic playing. With Tony Salty and Elaine Cunniff. Directed by Ian Talbot. Central House, Water Street (01296 71150). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. mat, Sat, 2.30pm. Next in Darlington, Ohio (01225 456559), Sept 17-21.

NEWCASTLE Janet McTeer leads an outstanding cast, which includes Owen Teale and John Carls, in Ibsen's classic drama, *A Doll's House*. A seemingly perfect marriage conceals desire, deception and frustrated ambition. Directed by Anthony Page.

LONDON GALLERIES British Museum, 100 Montagu Square, London, W1 (0171-338 0355). **Feetfall Hall**, Imagined Communities (0171-882 4242). **Hayward**, Alexander Felton Jones (0171-420 1322). **National Portrait Gallery**, Lateral Photographs by Mark Gerson (0171-338 0355).

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM (0171 632 8300) (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. *LA TRAVIATA* (Thu 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT)).

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE (0171 304 4000) *LA TRAVIATA* (Thu 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT)).

THEATRES

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE (Wed 8.15). *LA TRAVIATA*.

SUNSET BOULEVARD (Wed 8.15). *LA TRAVIATA*.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM (0171 632 8300) (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. *LA TRAVIATA* (Thu 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT)).

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE (0171 304 4000) *LA TRAVIATA* (Thu 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT)).

THEATRES

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE (Wed 8.15). *LA TRAVIATA*.

SUNSET BOULEVARD (Wed 8.15). *LA TRAVIATA*.

BEST MUSICAL (Thu 7.30). *LA TRAVIATA*.

ALBERT THEATRE (0171 389 1700) *LA TRAVIATA* (Thu 7.30).

DRUCS VANIA (Thu 7.30). *LA TRAVIATA*.

FRANCES BARBER (Thu 7.30). *LA TRAVIATA*.

CONSTANCE GARDINER (Thu 7.30). *LA TRAVIATA*.

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LAW

● YOUTH CRIME AND PUNISHMENT 41

Perverse little parliament

Gary Slapper
questions the
role of the
jury in a
changing world

Rarely does perversity cause people to dance in the streets. But that is what occurred one day this summer outside Liverpool Crown Court.

The jubilation came after a jury acquitted Lotta Kronlid, Joanna Wilson and Andrea Needham of inflicting £1.5 million worth of criminal damage on a British Aerospace Hawk jet, despite clear evidence that they had done so. They, and a fourth woman, Angela Zelter, were also acquitted of conspiring to damage the jet. While incredulity, dismay and panic ran through the corridors of the Government and British Aerospace (BAe), supporters of the defendants' Christian peace campaign group celebrated with jigs in the street.

After the verdict, Michael Jack, the Treasury Minister and MP for Fylde, sought urgent talks between the Home Office and the Attorney General, observing that "the ramifications of the case are... very important in terms of future security, jobs and the question of being able to do damage and getting away with it". Though its form was legalistic, the nature of the women's defence was political, and the jury verdict can be added to a vivid chronicle of cases where "jury equity" has prevailed over a more mechanistic application of the law.

Is trial by jury a desirable and quintessentially British institution or an expensive and dispensable anachronism which, after six centuries of evolution, cannot effectively adapt to modern times? In his book *Trial by Jury* (1966) Lord Devlin hailed the jury as a very important bulwark against autocratic government, "for no tyrant could afford to leave a subject's freedom in the hands of 12 of his countrymen". The institution was, he claimed, "the lamp that shows that freedom lives".

Conversely, some academic writers such as Penny Darbyshire have argued that the jury is not really randomly selected, so that even when it does warrant such a label, it is not representative of the population. And, Dr Darbyshire argues, the extent to which juries have convicted people who subsequently proved to have been not guilty shows that the institution does not merit the eulogies it often receives.

When a range period is examined, there is undoubtedly an unpredictability about those that will result in a defendant jury verdict. The three women who admitted break-



Media celebrities, free, after damaging a Hawk jet: Andrea Needham, left, Lotta Kronlid, Angela Zelter and Joanna Wilson

ing into a BAe plant near Preston, Lancashire, and using hammers to damage a Hawk 24955, argued that their otherwise criminal acts were subject to the lawful excuse that they were avoiding a greater crime: genocide. Committing a crime to prevent a (usually) greater crime is permitted under Section 3 of the Criminal Law Act 1967, which provides that a person may use "such force as is reasonable in all the circumstances in the prevention of crime".

mates that the Indonesians have since killed about a third of the population. The women had left a video film in the Hawk's cockpit, explaining their actions. It included footage of the Dili massacre in 1991, when Indonesian troops shot 291 civilians. The Indonesian Government had given assurances that the Hawks would not be used against the East Timorese, and the British Government said that an export licence had been granted be-

sticks and wheelchairs. Sex was said to have been paid for with money or even Luncheon Vouchers. Several police officers collected evidence about the parties by attending them under assumed identities. The detailed and often lurid evidence they gave in court was the source of some hilarity in the public gallery and the trial judge stated in his summing-up to the jury that the case was "a criminal trial, not a form of entertainment". The jury acquitted Ms Payne in the teeth of all the evidence.

In a grimmer context, the jury verdict in the case of Stephen Owen is similarly open to question. Mr Owen's 12-year-old son was run down and killed by a lorry driver who, it transpired, had never taken a driving test, had a long criminal record for drink-driving and violence and was blind in one eye.

He was reputed not to have shown any remorse for killing the boy. The driver was convicted of a driving offence and, having been released from an 18-month sentence after 12 months, promptly returned to driving his lorry unlawfully. In outrage and grief, and having met with no response from letters to all sorts of authorities, Mr Owen got a shotgun and shot the lorry driver, injuring him. He was prosecuted in 1992 for a variety of offences, including attempted murder, but, in the face of all the evidence against him, was acquitted by the jury.

Cases that can be seen as illustrating an "heroic" jury

Misleading evidence from forensic scientists or police officers can and has fooled the system

Genocide is a crime under English law by virtue of the Genocide Act 1969, which covers killing members of national, ethnic, racial or religious group with intent to destroy that group wholly or partly.

The peace activists, members of the organisation Ploughshare, pointed out that the Hawk was due to be sold, as one of a consignment of 24, to the Indonesian Government. They contended that the jet would be used against the civilian population of East Timor as part of a genocidal attack on the people of that island. The former Portuguese colony was forcibly annexed by Indonesia in 1975, and Amnesty International esti-

cause the Indonesian assurances had been accepted. Lord Devlin stated in 1966 that "each jury is a little Parliament". If that is so, the Government was given a serious jolt by the microcosmic House of Commons at Liverpool.

Other instances of "perverse" albeit understandable verdicts include the case of Cynthia Payne, who in 1987 was found not guilty of charges, under the Sexual Offences Act 1956, of controlling prostitutes. It was alleged that Ms Payne organised sex parties in a suburban house in south London for gain. Some of the alleged clients were senior police officers, ex-squadron leaders, and senior citizens who used walking

function, however, should be set against the many miscarriage of justice cases in which (misinformed) juries have convicted people who have been demonstrably innocent.

The jury might have a symbolic effect of promoting public confidence in the criminal justice system through public participation, but three points offset such an alleged merit. First, juries are only as good as the evidence on which they have to deliberate, so misleading evidence from forensic scientists or police officers can and has fooled the system. Secondly, legal changes such as the undermining of the right to silence can result in jury-proof miscarriages of justice, and, thirdly, 95 per cent of criminal cases are tried without juries in magistrates' courts.

Dr Slapper is principal lecturer in law at Staffordshire University.

DIY lawyers can be fools unto themselves

The recent Old Bailey rape trial in which the defendant represented himself, and cross-examined the victim for six days, demonstrates the problems posed for the legal system by litigants in person. There is a strong case for compelling defendants in some criminal trials to be represented by a lawyer, in their own interests, as well as in the interests of others.

Judges who have to deal with people who represent themselves in court typically experience the kind of frustration expressed by the Supreme Court of New South Wales in a 1975 judgment. The litigant in person had "spent some time reading to the court disconnected statements as to the law from a series of cards, some of which had no significant relationship to the issues in the proceedings". The judgment in this Australian case added that "indications from individual members of the court that these readings were of no assistance in determining the appeal appeared to have no effect upon his manner of conducting the proceedings".

It is far from easy for a judge to restrain the verbosity of a litigant in person. Indeed, attempts to do so may prolong the delay. The possible problems are illustrated in a judgment by Lord Justice Woolf for the Court of Appeal in 1987, dismissing an appeal against conviction for burglary. Lord Justice Woolf commented that the manner in which the defendant had represented himself had "caused intense difficulty for the very experienced trial judge and grossly prolonged the proceedings". The prosecutor made his opening speech in less than ten minutes, and the witnesses for the prosecution gave their evidence in chief for little more than one hour.

However, the antics of the defendant resulted in the trial extending over 38 days.

It is unlikely that the House of Lords today would show the same patience as their predecessors did in 1869 when listening to a litigant in person argue her case for 23 days. In his judgment, Lord Chancellor Hatherley referred to her argument as having been "conducted with the greatest possible ability during the first three or four days of the discussion when all, I think, was said that fairly could be said upon the subject".

However, the problems remain of how to promote efficiency and fairness when a litigant argues a case in person, in a civil or criminal court.

In English law, defendants in a criminal trial have the right to represent themselves. The Court of Criminal Appeal held in 1943 that "no person charged with a criminal offence can have counsel forced upon him against his will", and so allowed an appeal

because of the "injustice" to a defendant whose objections to being represented by counsel had been overruled by an assistant recorder. The same conclusion was reached by the Supreme Court of Canada in 1948, and by the United States Supreme Court in 1975 (by six votes to three). But the reasoning in these cases is unconvincing.

It is in the interests of defendants in criminal trials to require that they be represented by counsel. In the US Supreme Court, Justice Blackmun's dissent pointed out that "if there is any truth to the old proverb that 'one who is his own lawyer has a fool for a client', the court by its opinion today now bestows a constitutional right on one to make a fool of himself". Society would not allow people to carry out delicate brain surgery on themselves. There is no reason why they should be allowed to conduct criminal trials on their own behalf.

Even if there were some argument from the perspective of the defendant for allowing self-representation, the interests of the individual are greatly outweighed by the interests of the witnesses, and society, that a criminal trial be conducted efficiently and competently, so that guilty persons are convicted and the innocent acquitted.

As Peter Duffy, a barrister specialising in European human rights law, pointed out in the correspondence columns of this newspaper on August 29, the European Court of Human Rights addressed this issue in 1992. In *Croissant v Germany*, the court noted that German law allowed the State to require a defendant to be represented by counsel, and that such a provision "finds parallels in the legislation of other contracting states". The court concluded that such statutory provisions "cannot be deemed incompatible with" the European Convention on Human Rights. The wishes of the defendant are certainly a relevant factor. But they may be overridden by the State where this is necessary in the interests of justice.

Strong arguments can be made in favour of amending the law to confer on the trial judge a power to require a defendant in criminal proceedings to accept legal aid for the purposes of being defended by counsel, where the interests of justice so require, having regard to the nature of the alleged offence, and the complexity of the issues.

A defendant facing an allegation of rape should not be cross-examining his alleged victim.

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

DAVID
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In vitro case to resume

A COURT battle to prevent a frozen human embryo being destroyed is due to resume on Friday.

The Allied Lawyers Response Team (ALERT) is fighting the case on behalf of a woman whose estranged husband would not sign a consent form to allow the embryo to be stored longer than the statutory maximum five-year period.

ALERT, a network of 24 solicitors' firms, secured a three-week emergency restraining order on the eve of the deadline at the beginning of August.

Graham Ross, the head of ALERT, says: "Our case concerns the interpretation of a wording in the regulations as it relates to 'consent'. There will be other cases in which people may have a legitimate complaint to the effect that either they or the donor were not located in time owing to lack of adequate steps being taken by the clinic."

IN AND OUTS



Court praised

THE magistrates' court at Redbridge, London, has borrowed an idea from the entertainment world in an effort to improve its service. It has designated one of its court clerks as a front-of-house officer to ensure that everything runs smoothly outside the courtroom. The initiative has certainly impressed HM Magistrates' Courts Service

Inspectorate, which has just issued a report on Redbridge and singles out the initiative for praise.

"Overall," it adds, "the treatment of court users was found to be courteous and helpful," although it criticises the courts for having a slow case turnover.

Art sales worry

CHARITY, company and trust lawyers are being encouraged to respond to a consultation paper drawn up by the Museums and Galleries Commission on the legal status of museum collections in the United Kingdom.

The document is the commission's response to the sale of works of art from museums or other public collections in order to raise money.

The commission has noted a "worrying" increase in such sales and suggests various ways of securing greater legal protection for works of art at

risk of being sold. The commission says: "Museum collections remain vulnerable to damaging and often short-sighted decisions by the members of governing bodies into whose hands they have been placed."

Shy lawyers

AS THE English Bar reviews its cab-rank rule, perhaps it should consider events in Belgium. Marc Dutroux, a suspect in the horrific kidnapping and murder of children there, cannot find a lawyer prepared to defend him. Belgian lawyers can refuse for "personal reasons".

Georges Carle, a partner at the Brussels law firm De Caluwe & Dieryck, says: "It is probably better for the client if a lawyer declines to act in these circumstances. They would not do a good job."

There is, however, a suspicion that some lawyers have backed off because they fear future clients will boycott them. If no one volunteers, the Belgian Bar's president will have to appoint a lawyer.

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EMPLOYMENT

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CHAMBERS

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Michael Chambers

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Young criminals: new ways forward

Paula Davies reports on schemes to help to rehabilitate children in trouble with the law — and they are working

Young courts are dealing with many more violent offenders than did the old juvenile courts. Though cases of murder perpetrated by youngsters are rare, carrying a knife "for protection" is now almost commonplace among adolescents. Some have even taken weapons to court.

This week a conference will be held in London to launch *Children Who Kill*, whose publication has been organised by the British Juvenile and Family Courts Society.

The Government's answer to the problem is to lock the youngsters up. The first Boot Camp has just opened and the recent White Paper — *Protecting the Public* — reflects the Home Secretary's continuing belief in the deterrent effect of prison. What is fascinating, meanwhile, is what is going on at the grass roots of policing in this country, where the police officer is returning to being a keeper of the peace in the community rather than solely an enforcer of the law.

The two-year experience in Harlepool, where the police are on the streets preventing antisocial behaviour, has led to a big drop in crime figures for the town. Community policing is also the idea behind the latest treatment of young offenders that the Thames Valley force has just started. Along with a pioneering victim compensation scheme in Hackney, east London, these developments could herald a more positive way of preventing crime and dealing with young criminals.

More than 60 members of police forces have now completed a course in the Thames Valley. Terry O'Connell from New South Wales has been teaching them the value of what are called Restorative Cautions and Interventions, which involve not only the offender and his family, but also the victims. "What we have to do," he said, "is to change the formal justice system in a way that better reflects the needs of victims, offenders and their respective communities."

Giving examples of the Australian experiments, he claims that, within the

local community, police were able to negotiate a diversionary model of dealing with offenders and their victims in which the local people were prepared to participate. The Restorative version concentrates on the harm that has resulted from the offence rather than the fact that the offence is against the law.

It was John Braithwaite, an Australian criminologist, who argued that the most effective form of social control is to confront a wrongdoer by involving people who are important in his life, which can shame him into acceptable behaviour. The victims' feelings are brought into the discussion, along with those of the offender's close relations.

Of course, I can hear the scoffing at such woolly, liberal ideas. Yet the experiment — started in 1991 — has been remarkably successful. An evaluation of the first two years showed a 50 per cent reduction in the number of cases before the court and a 95 per cent compliance by offenders with agreements on behaviour. Participation by victims has, like their degree of satisfaction, been high. They apparently want not so much monetary compensation as a proper apology.

One of the most imaginative schemes for victim compensation has been set up in Hackney. Here Stephen Richards, head of the Intermediate Treatment and Bail Support Scheme, started a system whereby persistent young offenders do work experience that will also compensate their victims. It has been running effectively for 18 months and provides work at £2 an hour. The maximum allowed is £12 a day, of which £6 goes to the victim, either through a Compensation Order or the local Victim Support organisation. All the work is done for the local authority or charities willing to employ the young offenders.

The 16 and 17-year-olds I met were decorating a flat for community use and all, not surprisingly, were happy to be there rather than in custody. "At least," said a boy of 16, "it teaches us something useful." Having been sentenced to two months' youth custody, he was sent on the course by the Court



These young offenders are working to compensate their victims

of Appeal, which obviously thought it a valuable alternative to custody. He has paid compensation to his victim and is "actually learning a trade", which should help him.

Lack of education is also being remedied. Mr Richards has obtained funding for a teacher to set up a programme to assess the offenders' needs and to give support and encouragement to help them to move back into education.

Unlike the police scheme, there is no contact with victims. Mr Richards believes that provided there is recompense for them, this is enough. "Not all

Cases when children kill inevitably attract media attention. This can easily create the false impression that the number of such cases is rapidly rising. But what are the facts? In the 15 years from 1979 to 1994, 210 young people aged under 17 in England and Wales were convicted of murder and 220 of manslaughter.

More than half of these killings were committed by 17-year-olds. Few involved children under 14: eight of them were convicted of murder and four of manslaughter.

The figures fluctuate from year to year. In the first five years covered by the figures, the yearly number of homicides by those under 18 averaged 29; in the most recent five-year period, 1990-94, it was 25.

Many contributory factors can produce the types of disturbance that lead children to kill. These include physical abuse, sexual abuse, exposure to repetitive or extreme violence, including witnessing such violence; parental mental disturbance; parental rejection; neurological abnormalities; drug abuse; and, in some cases, mental illness. The combination of factors differs in each individual case. Though homicides by children are relatively rare, these conditions, unhappily, are not. Many other children may therefore be potentially capable of killing. The conjunction of such factors with other circumstances (such as the friendship of two young people with complementary disturbed personalities or in adolescence the escalation of behaviour through gang participation) can result in homicides that would not otherwise have taken place.

Procedures for dealing with juvenile killers differ markedly throughout Europe. In Britain, the age of criminal responsibility is unusually low by European standards: in England and Wales it is ten, and children accused of murder or manslaughter are

Paul Cavadino asks why Britain is so tough on its juvenile killers

tried and sentenced by the Crown Court. In the Bulger case, most foreign commentators were amazed that two 11-year-olds should be dealt with by an adult-style criminal trial. Many observers questioned whether such young children could comprehend the complexities of a long criminal trial, whether they should have appeared in the full glare of media coverage and whether it was right for the boys' names to be reported after conviction, with the diffi-

HELPING THE YOUNGSTERS

A ONE-DAY symposium, *Children who Kill*, will take place in London at the Abbey Community Centre, Westminster, on Friday. For details, contact Criminal Justice Associates, 0190 8679465.

culties this would pose for their rehabilitation.

Other European practitioners are also startled by our system whereby juveniles found guilty of murder receive mandatory sentences of detention during Her Majesty's pleasure and by ministerial involvement in the sentencing process. At the beginning of the sentence the Home Secretary sets a minimum "tariff" period. (In the Bulger case, the Home Secretary notoriously set a 15-year tariff, although the trial judge and the Lord Chief Justice had recommended eight and ten years respectively.)

At the end of the tariff period, the Parole Board considers the case and can recommend release to the Home Secretary, who is not currently bound to accept the recommendation. Since the European Court of Human Rights' recent *Hussain and Singh* judgments the Govern-

ment will have to alter the system for making release decisions, removing the Home Secretary from the process.

This will not, however, affect the procedure for setting tariffs (to be the subject of future decisions by the House of Lords and the European Court). These are effectively sentencing decisions, yet they are made by a politician without a hearing and with no right of appeal. When politicians make such decisions, there is risk that they will be influenced by electoral considerations and media pressure.

In most European countries, under-14s who commit offences do not appear before the criminal courts. They are dealt with by family courts concerned with the need for compulsory measures of care. In France the age of criminal responsibility is 13; in Germany, Austria and Italy it is 14; in the Scandinavian countries 15; in Spain and Portugal 16 and in Belgium 18. In Eastern Europe, it ranges between 14 and 16. Only France and Holland have indeterminate sentences for convicted juveniles; and in both countries judges regularly review such sentences.

Other European systems are not without blemish. But at a European conference organised by the British Juvenile and Family Courts Society, other countries' delegates regarded our system for dealing with children who kill as extreme.

It fails to meet the needs of disturbed juveniles, fails to meet the requirements of natural justice and fails society by hampering the provision of treatment that can help these young people to overcome their violent tendencies. Its replacement with an approach geared to the needs of seriously disturbed children is overdue.

● The author is chair of the Penal Affairs Consortium, an alliance of 31 organisations concerned with the penal system. He is the editor of *Children Who Kill* (Waterland Press, pub this month, £16 plus £1.50 p&p). Details: 01962 855557.

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Sir Frederick Crawford has recently been approved as Chairman of the Commission, and it is expected that the remainder of the Board will be identified through the autumn. The current need is to appoint people to a number of management, professional and support roles in time for the Commission to begin its work within the next few months.



LEGAL ADVISERS

to £50,000

You will provide advice to the Chairman, Board Members and Caseworkers on all legal matters of relevance to the Commission's work. This will include matters related to cases under investigation; the implications of judgements likely to influence case handling; the handling of judicial review proceedings; and management issues - specifically in the context of employment and contract law.

You must be a Solicitor or Barrister with extensive knowledge and experience in criminal law and, ideally, some knowledge of administrative and employment law. Ref: C2978.

POLICE ADVISERS

to £45,000 or on secondment

A serving or newly retired police officer of at least Superintendent rank, you will advise on the selection of investigating officers; help to set their detailed working remit, and assist the Commission to build good working relationships with police services throughout the country.

If a serving officer, you will be appointed on secondment under central service terms. If retired, your salary will reflect the extent and quality of relevant experience you are able to offer. Ref: C2979.

CASEWORKERS

£15,000 - £25,000; some senior posts to £40,000

You will consider representations from convicted persons or their representatives and decide, on the basis of objective evidence, whether their allegation or complaint merits investigation. Subsequently, you will consider the reports of investigating officers and take decisions on cases where responsibility has been delegated. In other cases you will advise and brief the Chairman and Board Members, recommending the action to be taken. In the senior roles, you will manage and develop less experienced team members.

Although a legal background is not necessary, you must be of graduate calibre with an interest in legal issues, specifically those related to the administration of the criminal justice system. Experience in the management of complex casework would be particularly relevant but, whatever your background, you will need excellent analytical skills coupled with the ability to take a methodical, rigorous and objective approach to your work, even when under pressure. It is anticipated that there will be considerable use of modern information technology. Interest in and familiarity with IT will be important in these appointments. Ref: C2973.

PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS
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production of material for publication; organising press and publicity events, and acting as press officer for the Commission. Of graduate calibre and with directly analogous experience, you will need excellent written and oral communication skills, together with the interpersonal and personal qualities needed to represent the Commission to the media and other outside interests. Ref: C2980.

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HEAD & ASSISTANT HEAD OF
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL UNIT
to £40,000 and £25,000 respectively

You will be involved in the creation of the personnel and financial systems on which the operation of the Commission will depend. Payroll management, staff recruitment and appraisal, training and general HR management will come within your remit. In the Head of Unit role, you will additionally act as the principal adviser to the Chairman and Chief Executive on financial matters, including compliance with government accounting practice and in securing funding for the Commission's work. These roles call for broad-based management experience, either in HR or financial management, but with some appreciation of both. A relevant professional qualification and/or knowledge of government accounting would be a distinct advantage, particularly for the Head of Unit post. Ref: C2977.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANTS

£11,000 - £20,000

In these roles you will provide support across the full range of the Unit's work. This is likely to include assisting the senior members of the Unit on personnel and finance matters; taking day-to-day responsibility for accommodation management and associated service and equipment contracts; providing administrative support for the Commission's IT training programme, and managing IT maintenance and supply agreements.

Computer literate, preferably with some knowledge of Windows-based software, you must have administrative experience in an office environment and, ideally, have had some exposure to personnel, finance or contract management. Ref: C2974.

These appointments will be made on the basis of a three year contract with the possibility of subsequent renewal. Your starting salary, within the range shown, will depend on your qualifications and the extent and quality of relevant experience you are able to offer. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 26th September 1996), please telephone Recruitment & Assessment Services on Basingstoke (01256) 468551 (24 hours) or fax 01256 846478. Please quote appropriate reference number.

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The Candidate

- qualified solicitor or barrister with 3 - 5 years' post qualification experience in general commercial law gained either within a multinational company or in private practice

- good communicator possessing a diplomatic and confident manner
- ability to demonstrate a flexible style of working in a team and on an independent basis in an international business environment
- good level of spoken french is desirable

If you believe you have the talents and background we are seeking and wish to work in this stimulating environment, contact our advising consultants, Gareth Chambers or Lindsay Reid, at In-House Legal. Telephone 0171 405 0151 or write to them at In-House Legal, 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH. Fax: 0171 831 7969. E-mail: hwgroup@hwgroup.co.uk

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You will be a qualified lawyer or chartered accountant with up to 4 years pge in taxation and an excellent academic record. You should have the ability to combine technical expertise with a commercial understanding of the clients' needs. You will need to be ambitious with an outgoing personality that allows you to develop professional relationships with clients and colleagues.

For further information or for an informal discussion, in complete confidence, please telephone Charles Ferguson or Penny Stevenson on 0171 831 2000 or write to them at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH, or fax 0171 831 6662.



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is particularly keen to strengthen its teaching teams in the European Union Law, Public Law, Property Law and Civil and Criminal Litigation.

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Mike Moran, Head of the Law Division on 0171-815 5733.

An application form and further details are available from the Human Resources Department, South Bank University, 103 Borough Road, London, SE1 0AA. Tel: 0171-815 6223 (24 hour answering service), or Email biggs@sbu.ac.uk.

Please quote reference number: AFL/3.
Closing date for applications: 20 September 1996.

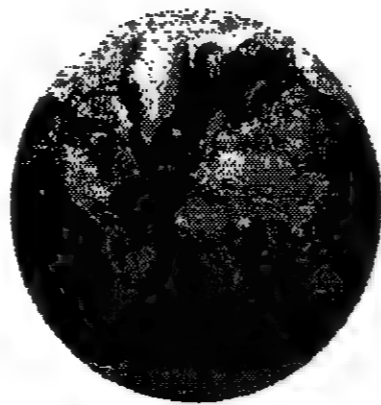
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The successful applicant will have a sharp commercial awareness and the credibility, confidence and diplomacy to succeed in a fiercely competitive environment.

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You will have 6 months' - 3 years' banking experience, preferably from a top City law firm. Crucially, you will have commercial acumen and an ability to thrive in a

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Please send your full cv and current salary details to Mr P P Davies, Director of Legal Services, Legal Department, Taylor Woodrow, 345 Ruislip Road, Southall, Middlesex UB1 2QX. Closing date: 30th September 1996.

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Titmuss Sainer Dechert

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This is seen as a permanent position and those seeking short term temporary work should not apply.

The firm offers a competitive remuneration package including an occupational pension scheme, life insurance, private medical insurance and profit related pay.

Applications should be in writing to Richard Lanchbury, Head of Administrative Services, Titmuss Sainer Dechert, 2 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4Y 1LT.

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, CARDIFF

About us

A strong factor in the success of our firm in the commercial property sector (we have the largest property practice in the country) has been the contribution of our property lawyers in Cardiff who have enjoyed unprecedented success in recent years, with major new instructions from national clients.

Our requirements

Dynamic 3-6 year qualified property lawyers with excellent technical skills, the ability to work unsupervised and maintain and develop lasting client relationships. Previous experience should have been gained at a top City or regional practice.

More junior assistants with up to 3 years' good quality property experience who can demonstrate sound commercial judgment and work well in a team environment. Newly qualified with a good property seat in their training contracts are encouraged to apply.

In both cases we are looking for individuals with outgoing personalities, a natural affinity for practice development and the ambition to build a long term career with us.

For further information in complete confidence please contact Rachel Williams, our Personnel Manager, on 01222 471147 or write to her at Eversheds, Fitzalan House, Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 1XZ.



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The above represents a small selection of the vacancies presently registered with us. Please contact: Andrew Golding, Yasmin Phillips or Sally Horrocks (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-577 0510 (0171-226 3163 evening/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 27 Sun Street, London EC4M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail: andy@zmb.co.uk Website: http://www.zmb.co.uk/

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Successful applicants will be welcomed into a small and friendly group which works and plays hard.

We welcome applications from newly qualified solicitors or solicitors with up to two years post qualification experience. Please write in confidence, enclosing your CV to Tim Cole, Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS.

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For further details please contact Charles Fellowes Partnership, Newwater House, 11 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3NY or telephone 0121-200 3363 quoting reference 010568.

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In order to succeed in this meritocratic environment, candidates will be self-confident, determined, mature and hard working, with the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

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FOOTBALL

Germans to pose another test of Arsenal's resolve

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

HAVING drawn against Aston Villa on Saturday, Arsenal may well face Villa again tomorrow — Villa, in this case, being Marko Villa, an 18-year-old attacker whom Borussia Mönchengladbach, Arsenal's opponents in the first leg of their UEFA Cup first-round tie at Highbury, have in desperation flung into their team, with some success.

The son of an Italian immigrant, Villa was playing in Borussia's amateur team and had not even got a contract when they sent him on as a substitute in the last 20 minutes of their penultimate game, which they lost 1-0 to Werder Bremen. That was their fourth match without a Bundesliga victory, but, last Friday, Villa played again, at home to Hamburg, scored a goal, and helped his team to an inspiring 3-0 win.

Arsenal beware; the more so as they seem almost sure to be without David Seaman, their

match-winning goalkeeper, who strained a hamstring playing for England in Moldova and who will again be replaced by the ever-erratic John Lukic.

Running a shuttle service between Leeds United and Arsenal, Lukic has often excelled, but all too frequently blundered, most recently against Chelsea at Highbury, when he allowed a shot by Gianluca Vialli to slip between himself and the net. He will also have nightmare memories of the strange error that gave Rangers a crucial goal against Leeds in a European Cup match at Ibrox in 1992.

It is rumoured that Arsenal are interested in Stefan Effenberg, the volatile and disruptive Borussia midfielder player and a poor man's Berndt Schuster; both blond, both so talented, both so wayward. Effenberg is seriously at odds with the club.

Already on £1 million a season, Effenberg wants still more money, a percentage of Borussia's ancillary rights, and he is not going to get it.

Nor, for all his gifted fluency, is he likely to retrieve a place in the German national team. Bert Vogts, the coach, sent him back in disgrace from the 1994 World Cup in the United States after Effenberg had made obscene gestures at German fans who were jeering him when Germany faltered against South Korea. Real Madrid is his true ambition: he recently sent his wife to talk to them. If Arsène Wenger, the incoming Arsenal manager, thinks that he can tame Effenberg — and Wenger, after all, is a German-speaking Alsatian — good luck to him.

Still without Tony Adams, Arsenal's three-man defence of Keown, Bould — if he is fit to play — and Linighan looks a little geriatric at times, but the team in recent FA Cup games has shown tremendous resilience, with a 3-3 draw against Chelsea after being 2-0 down, and the 2-2 draw away to Aston Villa, again after being two goals behind.

Paul Merson seems to have run into trouble, Dennis Bergkamp remains a forward of the highest quality, and Ian Wright can make goals out of nothing.

Borussia are still badly missing Martin Dahlin, the Sweden centre forward who was sold, strangely, to Roma. Meeting him in Rome in May, I suggested that a transfer to Roma hardly looked feasible, given the presence of two top South American strikers, Fonseca and Balbo. Dahlin looked quizzical, his transfer to Roma took place, and he has been unhappy ever since.

Borussia wanted him back, but he refused them. The blond Pole, Juskowiak, bought from Olympiakos Piraeus, has not so far replaced him adequately. But there is plenty of talent in the team, among them Patrik Andersson, the centre back who played for Sweden against England in the 1992 European championship finals, Fournier, from France, alongside him, and the skilful Romanian, Lupescu, in midfield.

Other foreigners available are the strikers, Jürgen Pettersson, from Sweden, and Max Huberts, from Holland, while the Danish midfielder, Peter Nielsen, scored one of the goals against Hamburg. Until Friday, the defence looked sound enough — scoring was the problem. Now, that may have been solved. Arsenal are favourites, but it will not be easy.



O'Halloran takes charge of washing the Barry Town kit — even though she is now the chairman of the club

Barry plan toast to absent friends

More than just pounds and pride will be invested in Barry Town's historic visit to Aberdeen in the UEFA Cup tonight. Barry, have already become the first team from the League of Wales to win a tie in European competition, beating clubs from Latvia and Hungary to reach the first round. The only sadness was that Neal O'Halloran, the man who had single-handedly lifted the club from the depths of the Southern League and onto the same European stage as Newcastle United and Internazionale, did not live to see the moment of fulfilment.

He died nearly a year ago, on September 30, and not the least part of Barry's motivation against the giants of the Scottish premier division will be to provide an appropriate tribute to the anniversary by reaching the second round.

An opening season record of played three, won three, goals for ten, goals against four, even in a Cinderella league, should be enough to concentrate Scottish minds on the job. Failing that, a quick glance into the eyes of Barry Town's president — as they like to say in Europe — will confirm that a hint of steel still remains in the town after the recession. Mrs Paula O'Halloran, 58, is not a woman to be taken lightly.

The last person who mistook the gentle smile and the casual manner for a soft touch was rewarded for guiding Barry to an unbeaten run of 41 games, and the league title by a 17-point margin, by a swift exit.

ANDREW LONGMORE



On the Welsh club's UEFA Cup adventure

touch was rewarded for guiding Barry to an unbeaten run of 41 games, and the league title by a 17-point margin, by a swift exit.

Like Oliver, Paul Giles, the manager, asked for more. "It wasn't the fact that he asked for more (money)," he said. "It was the way he asked for it. I wasn't going to be spoken to like that by anyone. It was my first big test since taking over from my husband. I had to be strong and I was." Gary Barnett, formerly of Oxford United, Coventry City and Leyton Orient, took over as player-manager in the close season.

There is no doubt whose law prevails in the confines of Jenner Park. Appropriately

enough for a club bent on making Europe their second home, her autocratic style of presidency is as Italianate as her neat cream suit. Her family's money, made from steel, has sponsored the club's move to a full time staff over the past two years and she will control the spending of it from the purchase of a new centre forward to the investment of more than £3 million in a new stand.

O'Halloran does not believe in committees. "I make the decisions," she said. "You have to have someone to do that, right or wrong. If I'm wrong, it's up to me to admit the mistake and learn from it. We don't sign anyone until I've seen them play and seen that they will fit in with the club. If I give the manager (I) Donald Ducks, he can't do anything. But I'm a shrewd judge now and my job is to give him good players." And wash the team kit.

Since her husband first came to Barry in 1958, first as a player, then as coach, manager and, finally, chairman, she has performed most of the chores of the dutiful sporting wife. "I have always been one step behind my husband. Now I like to think he is one step behind me. I think he guides me." So, partly out of pride, partly from habit, she has combined her new role with her old one as laundry lady. "No one does it as well as I do, you see. When you play in yellow, it's got to be right."

Whether Barry will be looking as smart by the end of the biggest game in the club's history is a different matter. Roy Aitken, the Aberdeen manager, has promised his side will play too fast for the non-League team, but Barry are not the standard job lot of carpenters, electricians and accountants out for a few pints and a slab of glory. Barry's players are fully professional — they train every morning, teach football in the schools every afternoon — and their preparations have been every bit as thorough.

They also have another black day from which to draw strength: April 27, the day Matthew Holtam, their talented young full back, was killed on the way back from a game. Holtam was hit by a car as he tried to cross the road after the team coach had broken down. He was just 21 and the team has only just started to fill the silence left by the death of the team joker.

"He was everybody's mate," Barnett said. "He was always lively, taking the mickey, telling jokes, and he was playing the best football of his career for us. His name is still mentioned before every game and it definitely will be tonight." If Holtam and the O'Hallorans are part of Barry's past and present, to become the "Rangers of Wales" is their ambitious vision of the future. Where better to start their quest than Aberdeen?

Little faces real test of Villa's quality

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BRIAN LITTLE'S quiet manner belies an inner strength which, since he became manager of Aston Villa almost two years ago, has helped to transform an attractive yet brittle side into perennial contenders. Last season brought the Coca-Cola Cup, probably ahead of schedule, and heightened domestic expectation; this season, Little is looking optimistically to Europe.

It is where the nature of his progress will be more accurately gauged, with Villa embarking on their ninth European campaign this evening when they play Helsingborgs IF, of Sweden, at Villa Park in the first leg of their UEFA Cup first-round tie. Little was first involved in foreign competition 18 years ago, when he played for Villa in a UEFA Cup quarter-final against Barcelona. He scored in the away leg, in a 2-1 defeat, but Barcelona went through 4-3 on aggregate.

The Continent is the only place to be for clubs harbouring hopes of great things and if Villa are to prove they are genuine contenders, Helsingborgs should be brushed aside as no more than a minor irritant. Though they finished runners-up in the Allsvenskan, the Swedish league, last season, and have nine Swedish internationals in their line-up, it is their first venture into Europe.

Malcolm Beard, Villa's chief scout, watched them beat Urmea FC 4-0 at the weekend and has advised Little to be wary. "They're a decent team and pretty good at set-pieces," Beard said. "We'll have to play at pace to get past them."

That will suit Villa, even though Sasa Curcic, their Yugoslavia midfielder player, is ineligible. "We play that way, anyway," Little said. "We'll be looking to make our fitness count, especially in the last 15 minutes."

"Swedish football has improved a lot in recent years. The days when we could say we should beat Swedish sides has long gone. I gather they're saying they haven't got a chance but we still have to be careful."

Villa have won 20 of their 41 European matches, drawing nine and losing 12. On their last excursion in the UEFA Cup two years ago, with Ron Atkinson in charge, they beat Internazionale, of Italy, in a penalty shoot-out before bowing out to Trabzonspor, of Turkey, on the away-goals rule.

Little, though, is right to be cautious. Helsingborgs, who defeated Dinamo Minsk 4-1 on aggregate in the qualifying round, reserved their best, a 3-0 victory, for the second leg in Belorussia. Villa Park, in contrast, should be a doddle.

FOR THE RECORD

<h3>ATHLETICS</h3> <p>SARAJEVO: International meeting: Miroslav Jovanovic 10.0; O. Grahm (Netherlands) 10.34; S. D. 10.67; 400m: B. Sada (Netherlands) 48.25; 200m: S. Torrey (Italy) 48.80; S. N. (Cuban) 48.95; 1,000m: D. W. (Cuban) 2:16.00; 500m: S. Torrey (Italy) 1:08.50; 200m: S. Torrey (</p>

TENNIS: GRAND-SLAM POWER BASE IS SHIFTING DESPITE AN ALL-AMERICAN FINAL

Sampras triumph masks impending dearth of US talent

PETE SAMPRAS has won his, and America's, only men's grand-slam title this year. He convincingly beat Michael Chang, his rival since boyhood and the No 2 seed, in straight sets on Sunday evening, successfully defending the trophy with a 6-1, 6-4, 7-6 victory. Where, though, is the next platoon of potential tennis champions from the United States?

What happens when the present team of Sampras, Chang, Andre Agassi, Jim Courier, MaliVai Washington, the Wimbledon finalist this year, and Todd Martin grow tired and old?

Although it is not yet apparent, the United States Tennis Association (USTA) is facing a long-term problem. In the past few years, the percentage of players from the United States ranked in the top 100 has dropped by more than half: from 36 to less than 15. Europe's percentage has risen by more than half: from 40 to nearly 70.

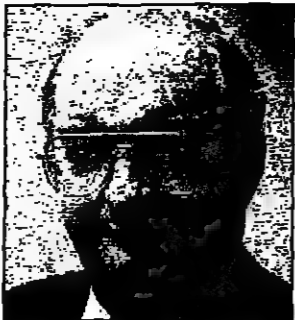
Of the men's grand-slam titles this year, the first three were won by Europeans: Boris Becker, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Richard Krajciok.

In the junior boys' and girls' singles, just completed at Flushing Meadows, there was no United States semi-finalist. They were exclusively European, with two each from Germany and France, and one each from Austria, Croatia, Hungary and the Czech Republic. The two junior events had only three seeded Americans, against 20 from Europe.

Nick Saviano, the men's director of coaching for the USTA, is acutely aware of the crisis towards which US tennis is heading. "We have a three-to-five-year window during which we can do something to reverse the trend," Saviano says. "If you want champions, you have to create an environment from which they evolve."

"Europe, which is approximately the size [geographically] of the United States, is healthy; while we've become isolated. We have to look at

DAVID MILLER



On a domestic victory at Flushing Meadows

our competitive environment, to see how we can give our young players more tournament experience."

Saviano points to the difference in the numbers of competitive tournaments. Europe (43) has more than twice the number of ATP events in the United States (18); eight times the number of Challenger or satellite tournaments (103 compared to 13); and five times

'Europe, which is half the size, is healthy, while we've become isolated'

the number of International Tennis Federation junior tournaments (45 to nine).

"The collective investment in development programmes in Europe is more than ten times ours, something that is happening because of the expansion of the game following its inclusion in the Olympic Games in 1984," Saviano said.

For the moment, Sampras and company will probably continue to hold their own with the rest of the world in leading tournaments. There were three Americans in the men's semi-finals here, the latter stages producing consecutive surprises: Chang's annihilation of Agassi in the semi-final, followed by Sampras's eclipse of Chang.

Many pundits had thought each match would go the other way, yet Agassi generated none of the authoritative power or intensity he had against Thomas Muster in the quarter-final, while Chang's blitz against Agassi was not remotely choiced in the final against Sampras.

Seventeen years ago, as eight-year-old competitors in San Diego, Chang was the bigger of the two. In 1987, in the under-17 US rankings, the order was: Wheaton, Courier, Chang, Washington, Stark, Sampras.

Chang won his first three matches against Sampras as a professional, and beat him for the loss of only three games on the way to taking the French Open title in 1989. Now, it seems, Sampras has the fix on him, having won nine of their last ten meetings.

The decisive factor, just as it had been in Steffi Graf's superiority over Monica Seles, was Sampras's service consistency, compared with Chang's wretched inaccuracy. In the first set, Chang's percentage of first serves in play was a miserable 33 against Sampras's 60. Although Chang was to improve with every set, and had set point for the third at 6-5, at no stage did he have Sampras seriously rattled.

It was unlikely that within four days Sampras could have fully recovered from his near collapse against Alex Corretja, of Spain, in the quarter-final.

He had looked tired even against the ineffective Goran Ivanisevic in the semi-final, and from the luxury of an immediate winning position against Chang, did not look as if he would have the stomach for the long fight that most had expected Chang would inflict upon him. When Chang broke back on service for 3-3 in the second set, for the next three games Sampras looked sluggish.

Ultimately, Sampras was never pressed, though he was lucky that, on Chang's set point, the net cord took the



Sampras holds his arms aloft after retaining the title in straight sets

sting out of Chang's drive, setting up a simple forehand for Sampras which Chang volleyed into the net. In the tie-break, two fine forehand passes carried Sampras from 3-2 to 5-2, and Chang's draining hopes disappeared when, in a four rally, his eventual overhead forehand gave Sampras three match points.

Sampras thus equalled John McEnroe's tally of four US Open titles, one behind Jimmy Connors's record of five, and

bringing Sampras's overall grand-slam haul to eight level with Connors, Ivan Lendl, Ken Rosewall and Fred Perry, three behind Bjorn Borg and Rod Laver and four behind Roy Emerson's probably unreachable 12.

The bigwig from Inland, the motor-company sponsors of the men's event who presented the cheque for \$500,000, inevitably said that Sampras had been "ossum". Frankly, in the final, he had not, but over the

fortnight he had revealed the calibre of a champion. His physical, if not his mental, endurance for five sets, however, remains in question.

The US Open was its usual story of erratic management, notably over the seeding farce, but at least they showed Wimbledon how to treat a retiring champion, making due recognition of Stefan Edberg's last appearance, giving him the platform of the Stadium Court.

Spots marked with an 'ex'

Marcelle — Life after Cosmo. Radio 4 (FM), 10.00am.

There's quite a high editorial fallout rate in this programme presented by Marcelle d'Argy Smith, former Editor of *Cosmopolitan*. She jogs through Hyde Park with Andreas Whitman Smith (no relation), former Editor of *The Independent* and eats out with Linda Kelsey, former Editor of *She*. No everyone in her life is an "ex". As I write this, A. A. Gill still writes about restaurants in *The Sunday Times* and a manicurist called Yvonne still keeps women's nails up to scratch in a beauty salon. Marcelle d'Argy Smith is now enjoying — scratch in a beauty salon. Marcelle d'Argy Smith is now enjoying — scratch in a beauty salon. Marcelle d'Argy Smith is now enjoying — scratch in a beauty salon.

Relative Values. Radio 4, 7.20pm.

I have said it before and I'll say it again. *Relative Values* has Michael O'Donnell seeking unpalatable truths by walking on eggshells and he fills it trying not to crack them. It's a role few of us would envy, and he fills it with remarkable aplomb. The story of former publican, Dove McFadden, his wife Helen, and daughter Sandra, overlays one trauma with another. The first is the rape charge brought against Dave. The second is its impact on wife and daughter. There is also the little matter of the trial verdict's impact on Dave himself. By now, you will have received the message that *Relative Values* is more about new beginnings than happy endings.

Peter Daville

RADIO 1

FM Stereo, 6.30am Chris Evans, 8.00 Simon Mayo, 12.00 Lisa (Jason), 2.00 Nicky Campbell, 4.00 Mark Goodier, 7.00 Evening Session, 9.00 Cling Film with Mark Kennedy and Mary Anne Hobbes, 10.00 Colin and Maureen Live at the Mercury Music Prize, 12.00 Claire Sturgess, 4.00am Charles Jordan

RADIO 2

FM Stereo, 6.00am Martin Kelner, 7.30 Sarah Kennedy, 8.30 Ken Bruce, 11.30 Jimmy Young, 1.30pm Debbie Throver, 3.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 John Dunn, 7.00 Hayes Over Britain, 8.30 The Elephant Man A 90-com by Debbie Barnham (38), 9.00 Seemless, 10.00 Far Roger Royle profiles Harry Secombe, 10.00 Thicker than Water, 10.30 The Jamiesons, 12.05am Steve Madden, 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, 6.35 The Magazine, 12.00 Midday with Mer, 2.00 Ruscoe on Five, 4.00 Nationwide, 7.00 News Extra, 7.30 at 7.50 Sports Bulletin, 7.35 The Tuesday Match, Coverage of the matches in the first round, first leg of the UEFA Cup, Newcastle, Arsenal, Celtic and Aberdeen are in action, 10.00 News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy, 11.00 Night Extra, 12.05am After Hours, 2.00 All Night

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross, 10.00 Scott Chisholm, 1.00pm Ann Rieburn, 3.00 Tommy Boyd, 5.00 Peter Dealey, 7.00 Sports Zone, 10.00 James White, 1.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 4

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 5

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 6

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 7

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 8

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 9

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 10

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 11

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

RADIO 12

6.00am On Air, includes Fayrlay (Marie Perle Virtue), Harty (Violin Concerto), Beethoven (Overture, King Stephen), Mercurio (String Trio No 2), Beethoven (Nagelhorn Tudi Felici), Strauss (Dasi Rosenblatt, Op 36 No 1), Wedderburn, Op 48 No 1; Wagner, Op 48 No 1; Die Heiligen Drei Könige, Op 58 No 6

Breakaway threat reflects financial fear for future

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AFTER a sometimes glorious summer on the field, a winter of discontent off it beckons. Two splits are emerging, one by Super League clubs, who have formed their own limited company, another by the first and second division sides, who fear financial disaster in their isolation and are hinting at a breakaway from the Rugby Football League (RFL).

Quite where the smaller clubs will break away to is hard to fathom. Sydney was their first port of call. The Australian Rugby League (ARL) has problems itself, but it extracted full propaganda value yesterday from the approach by a disaffected part of what it sees as the crumbling Super League empire.

John Quayle, the ARL chief executive, said the smaller clubs were seeking assistance from outside the RFL. "England's really now a Super League organisation and they feel they are being left out. The clubs are doing everything they can to keep the game alive over there, and they're not getting much support."

Tomorrow, the Rugby

League Council, the game's decision-making body, will discuss giving far bigger prizes to the £17.4 million annual Super League cake to the 12 elite clubs. It is against this background of their funding being slashed that the smaller clubs are possibly willing to abandon the RFL.

Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, said that all clubs deserved protection. Yet, it is significant that the profes-



Lindsay: facing split

sional governing body will have a large stake in Rugby League Europe Ltd, ostensibly the Super League clubs' new commercial arm, but which seeks a degree of autonomy.

Chris Caisley, chairman of the off-field Super League pace-setters, can spread that dynamism generally as chairman of the new company. "Our priority is to raise attendances throughout the Super League," he said. "We want to invest some of our income to generate more income."

The Premiership finals at Old Trafford on Sunday were an active reminder of the playing split between top and second tier. The 35,000 crowd which saw a highly-skilled, highly-charged Wigan victory against St Helens, which distilled all the virtues of the Super League, also witnessed a half-speed version in the defeat by Salford of Keighley.

Phil Larder, the Great Britain coach, said summer rugby had opened up a big gap in standards. Jason Crichtley, the Keighley utility back, one of two additions yesterday to the party which leaves for Papua New Guinea on Friday week, is one of only two first division players in the squad.

Karl Hammond has had an impressive season for St Helens at stand-off half and loose forward and deserves his first call-up. He can also fill in at centre now that his teammate, Paul Newlove, who tore a hamstring in the Premiership match, has been forced to drop out. Chris Joynt had a cartilage operation last week and the St Helens forward's hope of joining the party in New Zealand is fading.

Larder has already lost several experienced players and must rely heavily on youth. "I have watched Karl closely and he has been on the top of his form during the last two months," he said. "Jason really impressed me when he played for Wales in the European championship and was close to being selected in the original squad."

ICE HOCKEY

Late goals flatter Bracknell

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

THE Benson and Hedges Cup has yet to take off. There has been a shortage of surprises and a premier division club has still to beat a Superleague team.

The trend continued on Sunday as Kingston Hawks and Medway Bears failed to score against Ayer, Scottish Eagles and Basingstoke Bison respectively, while Slough Jets and Guildford Flames managed only one goal apiece against Cardiff Devils and Bracknell Bees.

The Bees were flattered by their 4-1 win, two of their goals coming in the final three minutes. The Flames made life difficult throughout, thanks to another fine performance by John Wolfe, their goaltender.

Ayer, Cardiff, Basingstoke and Manchester Storm have qualified for the quarter-finals with two rounds of group matches still to be played and the remaining four Superleague teams are virtually certain to join them at the knockout stage.

The Eagles have emerged as a surprisingly strong force. In their two games at the weekend, they restricted the opposition to a miserly 27 shots while managing 115 themselves. In Jiri Lala, they have one of the most skillful players seen in this country for many years and his playmaking ability will ensure plenty of goals.

Cardiff Devils have also impressed, six players scoring in their 7-1 win over Slough Jets. In contrast, Newcastle "Cobras" and Manchester Storm have yet to look convincing. Both were extended by premier division opponents on Sunday. It needed three quick goals midway through the game to help the Cobras to an 8-4 win over Telford Tigers and, although the Storm led throughout in the 6-4 defeat of Swindon Ice Lords, they had Marc Gronau, in goal, to thank for maintaining their lead.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Dallas revival silences critics

By OLIVER HOIT

ONE of their best players is in the midst of a five-game suspension for drug abuse, respect eludes their coach even though he won the Super Bowl last year, several of their star names have chosen to leave and they suffered a crushing defeat in their first game of the new season last week.

Things were looking good for the legends who love to hate Dallas Cowboys because of their wealth and their arrogance. On Sunday, though, America's Team leapt back to its feet, taunting the doubters with evidence that they had just been playing dead.

The Cowboys, facing three more games without Michael Irvin, who pleaded no contest to drugs charges in the close season, put the memories of a troubled summer and a crushing defeat at the hands of the Chicago Bears firmly behind them in the Texas Stadium with a 27-0 victory over New York Giants.

Troy Aikman, their quarterback and the highest-paid player in the National Football League, threw three touchdown passes, including one to the running back, Emmitt Smith, who played despite lingering back and neck injuries sustained in last week's reverse. "We executed a lot better than last week," Aikman said. "This was a big game for us."

"I thought we played excellently in every facet of the game," Barry Switzer, the man labelled Bozo the Coach last year, said. "It was important to get this one because the pressure mounts very quickly at this team when things are not going right. The intensity of it all is awesome."

Switzer's predecessor at Dallas, Jimmy Johnson, continued his bravura start in charge of Miami Dolphins when they added a 39-10 trouncing of Arizona Cardinals to their comfortable opening-day victory over New England Patriots. The experts have predicted that Miami will perform brightly throughout September, when they

have a sequence of less challenging games, before falling away in the second half of the season.

Their new running back sensation, Karim Abdul-Jabbar, scored two touchdowns from short runs in the first half and Dan Marino, their quarterback who was marginalised against the Patriots by Johnson's concentration on running the ball, made a bigger contribution this

RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL) Minnesota 23 Atlanta 17; Buffalo 17 New England 10; Detroit 21 Tampa Bay 6; Houston 34 Indianapolis 17; Kansas City 19 Oakland 23; Carolina 22 New Orleans 26; Indianapolis 21 New York Jets 7; Pittsburgh 21 Baltimore 17; Washington 10 Chicago 3; Dallas 27 New York Giants 0; San Diego 27 Cincinnati 14; Denver 30 Seattle 20; San Francisco 34; Los Angeles 6; Miami 28 Arizona 10.

week with two touchdown passes.

One of the league's other leading quarterbacks, Steve Young, had to be replaced because of injury for the second week running but his San Francisco 49ers still crushed St Louis Rams 34-0 for their second successive win. Jim Kelly, another member of the outgoing generation of great passers, threw a 63-yard touchdown pass to shake Buffalo Bills beyond the Patriots.

Carolina Panthers, who took six games to register their first win in their debut year in the league in 1995, scored their second victory in this season's two opening games when John Kasay kicked a 23-yard field goal to squeeze them past New Orleans Saints in Louisiana.

It was even a slightly better day for Neil O'Donnell, the quarterback of the New York Jets, who was sacked eight times last week in his first game for the team since leaving Pittsburgh Steelers, the Super Bowl runners-up last season. The Jets only lost 21-7 and O'Donnell even managed to launch one touchdown pass.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 47

PRIMERO

(c) A gambling card-game, very fashionable from about 1530 to about 1640, in which four cards were dealt to each player, each card having three or four values. From the Spanish feminine *primera* first. Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*, 1762: "How the holy man managed the affair, unless he spent the greatest part of his time in combing his whiskers, or playing at primero."

ROGERIAN

(c) Some form of wig. From the name Roger of the principally wig-wearing sex. Hall, *Satires*, 1597: "The sportfull winder, to mocke the beardless man, / Tosses apace the pitch'd Rogerian."

QUINOA

(c) An annual plant (*Chenopodium Quinoa*, N.O. *Chenopodiaceae*) found on the Pacific slopes of the Andes, cultivated in Chili and Peru for its edible farinaceous seeds. The Spanish spelling of the Peruvian (*Quichuan*) *kinua*, *kinua*. "This useful species of grain, here called quinoa, resembles a lentil in shape, but much less, and very white."

RHABDOMANCY

(c) Divination by means of a rod or wand; specifically the art of discovering oracles, springs of water, etc. in the earth by means of a divining-rod. From the Greek *rhakdo* a stick + *manteia* telling the future. "Whatever science or superstition may say, most of the tea-kettles in the vale of Wrington are filled by rhabdomancy."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nc7? Nxc7 2 Qxd5 Kxd3 3 Rd8 mate.

فكنا من الأصل

Out of the blue: line, language and chins

The message on my answering machine came from a man of middle-class background who owns a house in central London, a car in the Cotswolds, a Jaguar and a Volvo. The message ended: "Perhaps you could give me a bell." A bell? Ah yes, he had lapsed into that favoured idiom of the otherwise well-spoken, known as Belgravia Cockney.

I expect he was giving me a bell from the motor, for Belgravia Cockneys no longer drive cars. Nor do police officers, at least not on television. Indeed I think that television is the source of this strange idiom. It is certainly the source of the argot used by our boys in blue.

Shout the term "gunner" in a police station and 15 people appear, most of them tiptoeing and bearing chins that are enough to make a Gillente shareholder weep. Not that I have lately entered a

police station, he added hastily, but via television I am often watching the detectives. Out of the Blue (BBC1) ended its series last night, but will surely be back. It is one of the few police series that has nobly resisted the temptation only to hire people called gunner, but in most other respects its modern televisual credentials are impeccable.

When the police officers are not sleeping with each other they are sleeping with witnesses: several of them could be convicted of serial misjudgment. Between shouting matches with assorted low-life suspects and marks, they sit in motor cars discussing plans to adopt children. If six of them rushed into a bank while you were cashing a cheque, you would drive for the floor and hope that somebody had called the police.

blame Sweeney, in which Dennis Waterman gunned his way to stardom. His gunner, John

Thaw, lacking enough people he could call gunner, went around calling people masey instead. Or was it cock? In *The Sweeney*, a copper wore a tie, but with the top shirt button undone. Much like a little black number in something by Dennis Potter, you just knew it would come off eventually.

Still and all, I like *Out of the Blue* because it tells good stories and the acting is impeccable. Immunity to swearing is a handy asset in the viewer, but because the show looks real and sounds real, does this mean it is real? I don't think so. I only know two real detectives: both shave daily and wear ties. They really must watch more television.

Two other institutions dominated viewing last night, one an old folk's home and the other a mental institution. I hope no one watched either programme while feeling depressed. Cutting Edge: The

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

Home (Channel 4) was an especially saddening experience, based in the long run of television documentaries which took too long, at 70 minutes, to tell its story. However, it was told with care, as one would expect from the director Paul Watson, whose credits include *The Factory* and *Sylvia Waters*. The Home looked at and spoke to the residents of Redmere Lodge in East

Sussex. They were waiting to die. There were moments of real pathos, as when an old lady said to Watson: "Something happened the other day you might have been interested in, but I can't remember what it was." Another woman took part in this exchange: "What happens?" "Nothing." "Who came to see you?" "No one."

The staff were bright and caring and the owner, Euan MacKenzie, bore the alleged change of circumstances in the caring business: "Looking after people used to be seen as the back door to lots and lots of cash. It isn't. It's getting now, very close to the borderline now, a lot of my peers are actually going under."

That is hardly the public perception, but the programme was more concerned with the actual life of the residents. At least two wanted the means to end it all. One woman, asked by a visiting vicar, replied: "Pray that I die, that's all."

The vicar, who looked as if he had just had a tabloid premonition (Vic tells God to kill old woman), produced: "... and we pray for the new life we will know in His presence." Full marks in the time available.

The fact that old people in homes lead aimless lives is not the fault of the old, or the people who put them there, or indeed the homes. A great many relatives feel guilty and the programme could have given more time to that subject. We can care about the old without having to avoid the fact that some of them can be downright awkward, even impossible, to care for elsewhere.

Cheerier news came from the Fulbourn Mental Hospital, but only for a while. The *Pioneers: Unlocking the Asylum* (BBC2) covered a lot of ground in 30 minutes to great effect. The focus was Dr David Clark, who

transformed Fulbourn in the 1950s from a lock-em-up institution into one that offered a proper degree of freedom.

When Clark arrived the ward doors were not the only things with locks. Inmates had "locked shoes" to prevent them being taken off and thrown at other people. Clark, assisted by an enlightened matron and her deputy, changed all this and substantially reduced the amount of frustration-related violence.

But now most of Fulbourn has been sold off and there are only 280 patients out of 1,000 in Clark's time. The locks are back. Clark believes attitudes have begun to swing in a wrong direction, seeming to suspect that the age of enlightenment is over: "Society gets the kind of psychiatry it deserves." Yes, probably.

Matthew Bond will appear tomorrow

CHOICE

Picture This: Life At A Premium BBC2, 8.00pm
"They say that if you can sell insurance you can sell anything," reflects Wayne Percival, and he speaks from experience. As financial adviser (read salesman) for a company on the Wirral, his job is to peddle pensions and life policies. He visits potential customers in their homes, soothing them up with scary statistics about the chances of dying before the age of 65 and the cost of funeral. People seem to enjoy his visits and some are on first-name terms. But they are still good at resisting his blandishments. Steven Clark's enjoyable film frames Percival's daily round with footage from the company's annual meeting, where staff are ordered to meet targets and "grow" the business. "The goal is to get some people only warming up," warns one executive. No wonder Percival feels under pressure but, as he says, you cannot force anybody to take out a policy.

Bomber Command: Reaping the Whirlwind Channel 4, 9.00pm
Alex Beitham's film reopens the debate about Sir Arthur Harris and the bombing of German civilians during the Second World War. In part, it seeks to rescue Harris from the accusation that the destruction of cities such as Hamburg and Dresden was not only morally unjustifiable but also too many airman's lives and did little to help to win the war. Mostly, the programme presents familiar material, though it does draw on the memories of former aircrew and makes use of private interviews with Harris which have only recently come to light. According to this account, one of the main reasons for the bombing was Churchill's need to persuade Stalin that Britain was a serious ally. But Churchill disowned the policy when the scale of civilian casualties became apparent. Harris had every reason to be bitter.

Timewatch: Hannibal and Desert Storm BBC2, 9.00pm
The connection between Hannibal's triumphant campaign against the Romans in 218 BC and the more recent Gulf War may not be immediately apparent, until, that is, you listen to General Norman Schwarzkopf. While leading the Allied forces against Saddam Hussein, Schwarzkopf reveals, Hannibal was often his inspiration. Jonathan Stamp's film reconstructs Hannibal's battles and invites Schwarzkopf to supply the Gulf War parallels. Apart from the differences in technology there are often striking parallels. Perhaps the most intriguing is that having won their battles, Hannibal and Schwarzkopf both shrank from finishing off the enemy. Schwarzkopf insists that it was right to end hostilities, although Saddam and his regime remain intact.

Network First: A View to a Kill ITV, 10.40pm
A new sportscaster, if that is not too rampant a description, has been brought to the United States. Relatives of murder victims are demanding, and being granted, the right to watch the killer being executed. It sounds gruesome but families say it helps them to come to terms with their grief. At least this applies to the Kelleys, subject of this film. Their sons and daughter, both in their twenties, were shot dead by a man who was robbing the family pawnshop in Texas. Five relatives, led by mother Linda and including Angela, a 90-year-old grandmother ("I can close my eyes if it goes too bad" set out for the prison, where Leo Jenkins is to be given a fatal injection. Television cameras are thankfully excluded from the execution, but the media are waiting outside in force and Linda does not disappoint them. Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (5224519) 9.25 **Supermarket Sweep** (Teletext) (s) (8403732)
9.55 **Regional News** (Teletext) (826213)
10.00 **The Time ... the Place** (s) (2860891)
10.35 **This Morning** (54529497)
12.20 **Regional News** (7209652)
12.30pm **News and weather** (Teletext) (848657)
12.55 **Shortland Street** (s) (2398478) 1.25 **High Road** (Teletext) (435854) 2.00 **Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (8707774) 2.25 **Outland** (Teletext) (s) (8783381) 2.50 **Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (7193658)
3.20 **News** (Teletext) (7199565)
3.25 **Regional News** (Teletext) (7198229)
3.30 **Potomac Park** (s) (6398651) 3.40 **Wizards** (s) (4431497) 3.50 **Hot Rod Dogs** (s) (6274749) 4.05 **Garfield and Friends** (s) (2058838)
4.15 **Hey Arnold!** Animation about a city child living in a multi-ethnic neighbourhood (s) (7829107)
4.40 **The Ward** Hospital-based drama (Teletext) (s) (8787590)
5.10 **Bruce's Price is Right** (4726364)
5.40 **News and weather** (Teletext) (712565)
6.00 **Home and Away** (s) (Teletext) (s) (265587)
6.25 **HTV News** (Teletext) (443300)
7.00 **Emmerdale** (Teletext) (1861)
7.30 **West Watch: The Mendips** A close look at the area's grasshoppers and dooms (s) (687)
8.00 **The Bill** WDC Lt Rawton must prove she has not framed a young female drug addict (Teletext) (4381)
8.30 **My Good Friend** Peter and Henry go in search of a birthday present for Ellie's young son (Teletext) (s) (6316)
9.00 **Soldier, Soldier** Deborah's drug-taking may mean spending the evening under lock and key (Teletext) (2687)
10.00 **News and weather** (Teletext) (19381)
10.30 **Regional News** (578215)

As HTV West except:
6.25pm-7.00 **Wales Tonight** (443300)
7.30-8.00 **James' Journals** (587)
11.40 **The European Match - UEFA Cup** Highlights (425497)

As HTV West except:
12.55pm **Home and Away** (2398478)
1.25 **Outland** (88248381)
1.55 **A Country Practice** (32720229)
2.00 **Vanessa** (97071590)
2.30-3.20 **Cat Crazy** (7193658)
3.10-5.40 **Shortland Street** (4726364)
6.25-7.00 **Central News and Weather** (443300)
7.40-8.00 **Heart of the Country** (687)
12.55pm **Home and Away** (2398478)
1.25 **Home and Away** (88248381)
1.55 **Shortland Street** (32720229)
2.20 **Vanessa** (97071590)
2.50-3.20 **Hope and Glory** (7193658)
3.10 **Home and Away** (4726364)
3.37-5.40 **Three Minutes - Making It Happen** (97720)
6.00 **Meridian Tonight** (223)
6.30-7.00 **Who Am I?** (403)
7.30-8.00 **Out of Town** (887)
11.10-11.40 **Prisoner Cell Block H** (535564)
5.00pm **FreeScreen** (26817)

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2.50-3.20 **Hope and Glory** (7193658)
3.10 **Home and Away** (4726364)
3.37-5.40 **Three Minutes - Making It Happen** (97720)
6.00 **Meridian Tonight** (223)
6.30-7.00 **Who Am I?** (403)
7.30-8.00 **Out of Town** (887)
11.10-11.40 **Prisoner Cell Block H** (535564)
5.00pm **FreeScreen** (26817)

As HTV West except:
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7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (56497)
9.00 **FILM: All This and Heaven Too** (1940, b/w) With Bette Davis, Charles Boyer and Barbara O'Neil. A French duke's wife is insanely jealous of the governess hired to look after the children. Directed by Anatole Litvak. (Ceetax) (84540671)
11.35 **Prairie Women** (5617590)
12.30pm **Garden Doctors** (s) (Teletext) (s) (44565)
1.00 **Seaside Story** (s) (32720)
2.00 **W.C. Fields: Fetal Glass of Beer** (b/w) (50119671)
2.20 **FILM: Belle Starr's Daughter** (1948, b/w) With George Montgomery and Ruth Roman. Western about a woman who falls for an outlaw's daughter. Directed by Lesley Selander. (Teletext) (750303)
4.00 **Backdate** (Teletext) (s) (318) 4.30 **Countdown** (Teletext) (s) (300) 5.00 **Ricki Lake** (Teletext) (s) (2082571) 5.45 **Travelogue: The Azores** (Teletext) (s) (831792)
6.00 **The Avengers** (s) (Teletext) (52584)
7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) (578855)
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FOOTBALL 48

Barry's benefactor prepares for club's grand day out

SPORT

TENNIS 50

State of US game open to doubt in spite of Sampras's win



Heavy defeat hastens dismissal

Leeds run out of patience with Wilkinson

By Peter Ball

LEEDS United found the 4-0 home defeat by their great rivals, Manchester United, on Saturday too humiliating to swallow, and Howard Wilkinson has paid the penalty. He was dismissed yesterday morning after eight years as manager. "I'm very disappointed, very sad and obviously very shocked," an emotional Wilkinson said at a hastily convened press conference.

Wilkinson had taken charge when Leeds were sixth from bottom of the old second division, and took them to the league championship in 1992 and the final of the Coca-Cola Cup last season. With a group of young players also emerging fast, he has left the club in a much stronger position than when he found it. "The whole place is much healthier, more vibrant, a potentially bigger place than anyone ever dreamt it could be eight years ago," Wilkinson said.

Even after the defeat on Saturday, Leeds were ninth in the FA Carling Premiership, as Wilkinson pointed out with a flash of his familiar tartness.

"There aren't many clubs in a situation like ours who put up the vacant sign," he said.

Bill Fotherby, the club's new chairman and former managing director, was not convinced, however. "I felt we weren't going in the direction we should be going in," he said. "We have to have success and we haven't been having it."

"It was the hardest decision of my life. It was like tearing a part of my body away, but I had lost confidence, and I was not going to let us get into the situation where we were in that sleepout down below and couldn't get out."

That will now be the task of a new manager. George Graham and Kenny Dalglish have been linked with the club in recent weeks. Graham's powers of organisation would fit in well with the Leeds tradition. Unlike Manchester City, where Graham turned down an approach to succeed Alan Ball, there is plenty of money to spend. Terry Venables has also, inevitably, been suggested as a possible successor, although it is difficult to picture the former England coach moving to Yorkshire. "We will start discussing it today, and I hope we make a quick decision," Fotherby said.

If Fotherby felt that Wilkinson had lost his way, then the manager's unpopularity with a significant — and increasing — section of the Leeds supporters meant that, with a new board in place after the takeover by the Caspian group in the summer, even a respectable placing was not enough to save him.

"At the end of the day, it's all about supporters," Robin Lauder, the club's new chief executive, said. "You need the supporters to be supportive of the manager."

A South Yorkshireman and a former teacher, Wilkinson's dour personality and didactic manner had not made him universally popular at Elland Road, even at the height of his success. When things began to go wrong, a section of the crowd turned against him. At the Coca-Cola Cup final in March, he was booed after the team gave an inept performance to lose 3-0 to Aston Villa.

Wilkinson decided then that the team needed dramatic surgery. The arrival of new owners appeared to offer the necessary funds for rebuilding, but the process stalled as the takeover was challenged in court.

This season, the fans were unhappy from the first home game, a defeat by Sheffield Wednesday. Wins over Wimbledon and Blackburn Rovers offered hope, and on Saturday, Wilkinson predicted that a win over Manchester United would mean they had got a "little run going". Instead, it was the end as the new board — or new chairman — proved less supportive than the old.

The old board had one agenda, the new board has another agenda, Wilkinson said. "Caspian are involved in the City, and have their ideas for the future of the club but, at a football club, what matters is the team, and if the performance is not as advantageous as they want it to be, they have to do something about it."

Wilkinson should at least get some compensation. His contract, which was only signed in February, guarantees him his full salary and bonuses until 1999 in the event of his dismissal. That could cost the club £1.8 million, and Fotherby's comments yesterday, that the two sets of lawyers should sit down to sort things out, suggested that a legal wrangle could ensue. "It's a big club and I hope we can sort it out in a gentlemanly way," Wilkinson said.



Wilkinson, who said he was sad and shocked at the decision, contemplates the end of his eight-year reign as Leeds United manager yesterday

Board games claim another victim

Rob Hughes



On the end of an era at Elland Road

Let us be quite clear about the sacking of Howard Wilkinson. It was not the vociferous noise of a section of Elland Road supporters that was the main reason for his removal yesterday, but the impatience of the group of businessmen on the board of Caspian Group, who took over the club after protracted legal wranglings this summer.

They are new to the game, the business that football is ever more becoming, and while they may have justification, on present results, to think that they can better the manager, they will assuredly not replace him with like in terms of the man. Wilkinson is a Yorkshireman through and through.

I am among those who have wondered for a year whether Wilkinson, with his profound, by educated musings, had lost the plot with Leeds United. His moribund, fearful performance — or rather those of the men he had chosen — particularly in the FA Cup against Liverpool last spring, amounted to nothing more than organised boredom. In that respect, if indeed George Graham is Caspian's idea of a successor, they must remember that the capacity to frustrate other teams until they drop, and the spectators will, was the mark of Graham's successful years at Highbury. Wilkinson could lose us all.

Deane, were pretty much insurmountable.

If only it were that temporary. If only the eight weeks of boardroom uncertainty during which the club sold their captain, Gary McAllister, and could not sign replacements, were the sum total of the lost momentum for the club. Like the Caspian Sea, it has far more depth than that.

The two people crucial to the building of a football club are the chairman and the manager. Leslie Silver, the man who hired Wilkinson, who trusted him as a business brain and not merely as a coach of footballers, had dithered with Wilkinson to build more than a team. They bolted the community back onto the club after the hooligan years that almost closed Elland Road down.

They took the team from fourth in the second division to champions of the first inside four years, and after seven managers in little more than a decade had shrivelled under the shadow of Don Revie's coarse triumphs, Wilkinson, without any doubt, became the one individual (with his bond with Silver) to foster the growth that won not only silverware but rebuilt the stadium, the pride, the institution that clubs in such cities indisputably become.

When Silver, at 71 and under doctor's orders following heart trouble, stepped

down last April, Wilkinson probably should have gone. Wilkinson, having rejected the FA's offer to school the next generation of English youth as director of coaching, having been denied by Silver the opportunity to listen to Arsenal's offer to replace George Graham, and having dismissed a millionaire's salary to work with Galatasaray in Turkey, had dug himself in for the eighth year of his ten-year building programme at Elland Road.

The departures of his two most important players, Gordon Strachan and McAllister, both to Coventry City, may have seemed like losing a valuable seam to this coalminer's son, who combined football with a Bachelor of Science degree at Sheffield University. He could, and

often did, battle us all with the science of his briefings, and I do not doubt that he sometimes had the same effect in the dressing-room. He will not be short of offers, this builder of clubs rather than charismatic claimer of titles.

The irony, of course, is that Graham, a friend whom Wilkinson sought to defend after the Arsenal "bang" affair, might already have been approached for Wilkinson's job. If he needs words of consolation this morning, those that Howard Wilkinson himself offered to John Beck, before he departed from Cambridge United, come to mind: "Noli illegitimi carborundum."

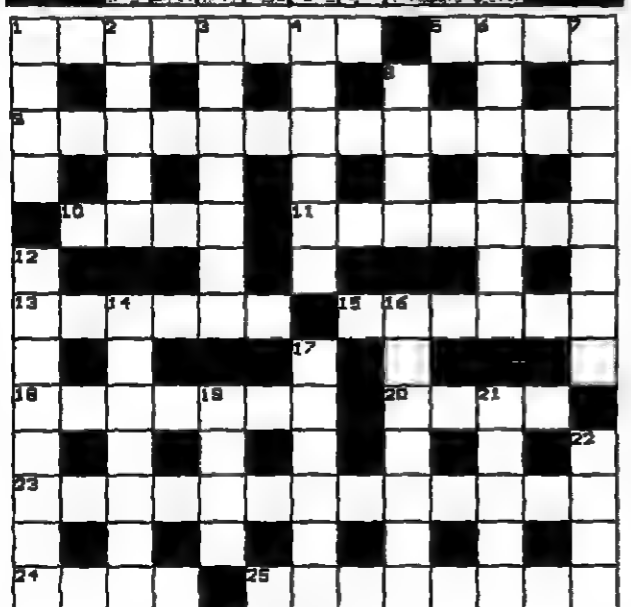
As every football man knows, that is the cod Latin for: "Don't let the bastards grind you down."

THE WILKINSON YEARS

1988: Wilkinson succeeds Billy Bremner as manager in October.
1989-90: Steers Leeds to the second division championship in his first full season with the club.
1991-92: Becomes the last manager to win the old first division championship (right) in his second year in the top flight with the club as Leeds overtake a flagging Manchester United team on the turn.
1992-93: After the rise, the fall. Leeds finish seventeenth in the Premier League and go out in the second round of the European Cup.
1993-94: Fifth place in the Premiership this season and the next does not satisfy the expectations of the fans. Silverware continues to elude them.
1995-96: Leeds slump to thirteenth in the Premiership and throw away their chance of contention with an agonising defeat in a 3-0 Coca-Cola Cup final defeat by Aston Villa.
1996: Leeds board loses patience after 4-0 home defeat by Manchester United.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 883

ACROSS

- 1 Loud, sad (sound) (8)
- 5 Incentive (4)
- 9 Not to exaggerate (2,3,2,6)
- 10 Brave man (4)
- 11 Waffle: suit material (7)
- 13 Bring (treasury) into effect (6)
- 15 University site (6)
- 18 The largest anthropoid ape (7)
- 20 Slope for vehicles (4)
- 23 Advantage from causing obstruction (8,5)
- 24 A peer (4)
- 25 Fanaticism (8)

DOWN

- 1 Essential part: fruit tissue (4)
- 2 Generous (5)
- 3 Is acquitted: slights (4,3)
- 4 Formally tell (6)
- 6 Pompous, complacent man (Our Mutual Friend) (7)
- 7 Monarchy supporter (8)
- 8 Mena —, enigmatic snail (4)
- 12 Unaltered: new (8)
- 14 Hunting dog (7)
- 16 Achievement of destination (7)
- 17 Socially clumsy (6)
- 19 Jump: sort of year (4)
- 21 To cheat, to fine (5)
- 22 Maintain the falsity of (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 882

ACROSS: 1 Daniel 5 Shaw 9 Impetuous 10 Ankle 11 Paroxysm 12 Exceed 15 Sparse 18 Tranquil 20 Trifle 22 Colleen 23 Peel 24 Revert
DOWN: 2 Animal 3 Improper 4 Leaky 6 Hawk 7 Wheeze 8 Shamed 13 Conquest 14 Defect 16 Perk up 17 Dinner 19 Able 21 Fuse

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Five nations united for ten years

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

RUGBY union laid its argument over the five nations' championship to rest officially in Dublin yesterday. The gentlemen's agreements, which governed the sport during its amateur days, have been replaced with a legal document that will keep the unions of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and France together for at least ten years.

England's contract with BSkyB, the satellite broadcasting company part-owned by News International, owners of The Times, remains in place. That provides for two five nations' matches, two games against southern-hemisphere countries and one further international to be shown live from Twickenham and, after a delay, on terrestrial television.

Under the new arrangements, when England play a five nations' match at home, terrestrial viewers would have live access to, for example, Ireland versus Scotland, depending on the exact proportion of the ten championship games to be shown on BSkyB. That will not be more than 50 per cent and could be less. At the same time, an independent valuation will be made of the

championship itself, and should be known by the end of this year.

Upon that will depend the size of England's contribution to the central five nations' broadcasting pool of revenue, 90 per cent of which will then be split equally. Of the other 10 per cent, half will act as prize-money and the other five per cent will acknowledge the differing number of clubs affiliated to each union — which echoes England's "mouths to feed" argument.

It is conceivable that the valuers will place a greater sum on England than on the other unions — just as BSkyB has done in its own valuation — and that England's return from the pooled revenues will not match it. But it is thought that England have so many attractive rugby properties to sell of their own that they can afford a greater contribution towards the common good.

"It may be two or three years before the game settles down into the pattern which most professional sports achieve," Vernon Pugh, chairman of the five nations' television committee and of the Welsh Rugby Union, said. "We have the right ingredients for the game of international rugby."

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP



"The Rugby World Cup every four years complements what we have and I don't think anyone needs to look for more. There could be too much international rugby and, once you take the gloss and excitement of the rarity value away, the public could soon become uninterested."

Cliff Brittle, chairman of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) executive committee, said: "There have been major concessions made by all parties." The unions have now agreed that there must be unanimity about any future distribution of money, change in the structure of the championship or to the present formula of home and away matches in alternate seasons.

Jim Telfer, the Scottish Rugby Union's director of rugby,

said: "England bring so much to the five nations — they are the country everybody wants to beat. To be honest, Wales, Ireland and Scotland need England more than they need us."

The sweetness and light expressed publicly by the administrators from the various governing bodies must now be extended towards their relationship with their clubs — most notably in England. The leading clubs in Wales have also yet to reach accord with their union.

Brittle had a message for the driving forces behind the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (Epruc) organisation. "The unions must accept that the professional clubs do have the responsibility of bearing the brunt of creating the basis for a professional game at club level and we [the RFU] need to assist them within certain parameters," he said.

"But it cannot and must not be at the cost of disbanding the game as we know it. To the club owners, I say that, before you insist on an early return from your investments, stop, think and, in some cases, learn what you have become part of — arguably the best sport in the world and, to keep it so, we must plan together."



Robert Runcie — Day Three: Humphrey Carpenter on the unconventional married life



Robert and Rosalind Runcie at their wedding in 1957

Robert Runcie's wife, Lindy, is tough-minded and outspoken. She reacted, initially, with horror to her husband's appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury and later became the subject of attacks by the press

The picture of Rosalind Runcie in a full-length evening dress lying on top of a Bechstein grand piano, that was published in *Sunday* magazine with the words: "The lady loves to play"

The offer that sent Lindy into the garden with a bottle of gin

Rosalind, otherwise known as Lindy, is not in the conventional mould of archbishops' wives. She is a tough-minded lady who is not afraid to express her own views — even if this means opposing her husband. In 1974, when Donald Coggan went from York to Canterbury, Runcie was tipped to succeed him. "Yes, we went up to York," he admitted to me. Lindy explained: "I said no."

Runcie began to tell the story in full: "We went up to York, and we had fish pie, and Evenson in the Minister, rather badly sung, and a night at the Railway Hotel. I was keen on York. I thought it would be a return to the North, a New World. But Lindy was in tears at breakfast."

"It was a terrible house," she

LIFE WITH LINDY

explained. "Robert had been offered it, and we went on holiday the next day, and I was still crying. One of Robert's staff said, 'If God calls you, it's your duty'. And I said, 'I don't think God is calling.' "And our daughter, Rebecca? She was 12 years old, we'd just got things established for her, and it would have meant her boarding, or me driving every day to a girls' school miles away. Ugh. Horrible! How did Runcie feel about Lindy's resistance to York? "Quite a lot of me wanted to go, but I felt that it wouldn't work. I mean, I did care for my wife."

"I said I wouldn't go," repeated Lindy. "We went on holiday, and I hid in the

garden where we were staying, and drank gin! Weeping to myself. And George Reindorp [Bishop of Guildford] wrote and said, 'You mustn't betray his God'. And I said, 'Well, if that's his God, I don't want Him'. "What was their first reaction in 1979 when the Downing Street letter came, offering Canterbury? "Horror!" answered Lindy. "It took Runcie a very long time to make up his mind whether to accept the archbishopric."

Had she seen the archbishopric of Canterbury coming up on the horizon? "No." But surely by the end of the 1970s it was looking pretty likely? "But don't forget I had dished him before, over York."

"You took six weeks to decide," Lindy reminded Runcie when I was asking them about this. "They were getting very

worried."

"I went to see Mrs Thatcher," Runcie said, "and I was intending to refuse." Was he really? "I think I was. I said, 'I feel that I'm so uncertain, it's wrong for me to do it.' And she said to Colin Peterson, her appointments secretary, 'Colin, why does it have to be now? Why can't it wait until after they've had a holiday?' And he said, 'yes it could. And she said, 'Go and have a holiday and come back and tell me.' And so we went off to Italy. Where Lindy cried most of the time."

"Well, it's quite a lot to take," said Lindy. "And everybody said, 'Lambeth's dreadful, but you'll love Canterbury.' And it was the other way round."

I asked her if the offer of the archbishopric of Canterbury sent her down the garden with the bottle of gin again. "Not

Rosalind on the cover of *Sunday* magazine

quite. It wasn't that bad. I said, 'I will go if you want to. I will not refuse this.' "Yes, she did say that," agreed Runcie. "And the children were quite participants by this time." He told them he had been offered it? "Yes."

"Rebecca was at Haileybury in the sixth form," added Lindy, "so it wasn't a question of finding her another school at a vital time. James was at university."

Why was Runcie so hesitant, I asked him. He paused to think before replying. Lindy interjected: "I know why it was, I didn't want our private lives to be taken away."

"Yes, I didn't like that idea either," agreed Runcie. He could see this coming? "There'd been a certain amount of it already. They'd been unkind to Coggan. I realised I couldn't easily be an

archbishop and have a private life which was uninvestigated." But was there anything to investigate? He laughed when I asked this. "No! But I mean, you couldn't have a private life."

This was certainly true of Lindy. The first press attack dates from October, 1983. In the summer of that year she appeared in a BBC television programme, *Home on Sunday*, which led journalist Anne Edwards to ask:

"How can a successful man gag a wife who seems hell-bent on making a fool of herself in public, and of him? ... It cannot

play," in which she is shown in a full-length red evening dress lying on top of a Bechstein grand piano, her face (with a half smile) is turned towards the camera.

The *Daily Star* printed a follow-up story "disclosing" that the Runcies' marriage was "causing reaction within the Church" and that Runcie and Lindy were "on holiday in Europe discussing the difficulties of their complex situation".

The press campaign was renewed a year later. On October 20, 1986, *The Sun* front page carried the banner headline, "Runcie's marriage sparks church crisis!" and quoted "senior Church of England men" as saying that "unless the pair start acting like a proper married couple, Dr Runcie may have to consid-

er quitting his post as head of the Church". The Runcies issued a statement denying reports that their marriage was on the rocks. I arrived in St Albans in November 1994 armed with notes about the marriage, feeling distinctly nervous about tackling such a sticky subject. When Runcie answered the door, he surprised me by saying: "Lindy will make you a cup of coffee." She was not only there but didn't seem in a hurry. I asked if she had time to sit down in front of the tape recorder. "Not really. I want to take three cracked eggs back to Sainsbury's and complain to the manager." But I persuaded her.

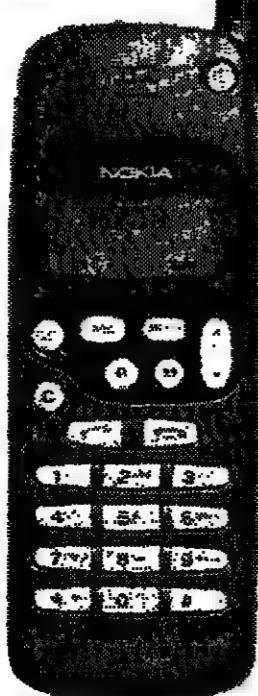
I asked how the grand piano photograph in the *News of the World* had come about. "Well," she answered, "it was

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that has led to a 'degree of domestic crisis' — and an 'explosion of welcome' for the Pope



A marriage that made the headlines. "You realise how lonely Linda must very often have been," says Runcie.

meant to be a serious article, and somebody else got hold of it. I don't know how. But how did the photographer persuade her to lie on the piano? "He was a friend — I wouldn't have done it otherwise — and it was going to be a serious thing about my life." How did she come to know him? "He was a journalist here, in St Albans. It was meant to be very serious." Runcie made a sceptical face at this.

I asked if there had been a gossip, slightly bitchy atmosphere at Lambeth. Linda alleged that two people in particular were determined to have us both out on the street. And my lawyer said, "You're not really going for you, they're going for Robert," which made me feel worse.

Eventually, she sued the *Daily Star*. "I wanted an open apology, and damages to a charity of my own choice, and my legal expenses paid. And then of course came more filth, because they tried to stop me by frightening me." By printing more of it? "Yes. Twenty Things You Didn't Know About Rosalind Runcie. Drinking in the kitchen — 'tidily as a new'. And lifting my skirt above my head to show the shocked maids my suntan." (Runcie laughed at the idea that they had had maids.) "And my language would shock a stevedore. And I love men. I surround myself with men, young men, and rich men. And going to gay sleazy nightclubs with my homosexual friends."

"You've got a lot of homosexual friends," remarked Runcie. In response to this, "Of course I've got a lot of homosexual friends. Why shouldn't I?"

"Much to your credit," Runcie agreed, slightly sarcastically. "How much did the charity get when she won the case? Well, it went up to eight thousand five hundred, and we wouldn't settle. Because the apology was going to say 'She may have suffered embarrassment', and I said, 'Not may, did'. And it went up to ten thousand pounds. There's an extremely nice statue in Lambeth Palace garden, a mother and a child. That's what the *Star* paid for." She wanted a statue rather than an actual charity? "That was my charity, the Lambeth Palace garden."



Close harmony: the Runcie family gather round the piano

Because I was raising money for it, at that time, and it's open for charity."

I said that my eye had been caught by the remark by somebody unnamed: "I expect they will soldier on, but at one stage there was a bit of a crisis. But I think they've learnt to cope with the idea of leading separate lives." Linda began to make guesses as to who had said this. I asked if the reference to "a bit of a crisis" might have had some basis in truth (Runcie himself had used similar words to me).

"I was extremely unhappy at Lambeth at first," answered Linda. "They were rewriting it for three and a half years. The dirt and everything else was dreadful. I did actually run away at the beginning."

Because we were living in this tiny little flat — our flat wasn't ready. So I went and stayed with a woman friend who lives in Hereford Square. How long was she away? "Oh, about a week. I came back, but I thought, 'I want to get away from this'. Do you blame me? But this could have been remembered by certain people, and interpreted as her walking out on Robert? "Yes, perhaps."

I reminded Runcie that he had talked of "having a degree of domestic crisis" when he was being offered the archbishopric. What did this mean?

Linda (interrupting): "I didn't want to go on. I loved being at St Albans. And I just thought, 'Why should I bother

with all this?' Because I would not go to York. And I said to Robert, 'If you really want to go to Lambeth, I will go with you'. But you know I don't."

Carpenter (to Runcie): "Why did you consider this to be something that you shouldn't tell me on Linda's behalf?"

Runcie: "I think that there was, for the first time, and the last time, really, a degree of Linda having buddies who were closer to her than I was. Because she needed support for herself, as somebody who was reluctant to come."

Carpenter: "You felt she was crying on other people's shoulders?"

Runcie: "That's right. In retrospect, you realise how lonely Linda must very often have been. After all, there weren't too many people to whom she could talk when I was busy. I think that made for a degree of estrangement. Here's me thinking that this is the greatest decision of my life; and here's somebody lamenting the loss of piano pupils. That's the sort of scale of the thing."

I asked whether, looking back now over the Lambeth years, it was worth it in the end? Linda admitted: "It seems like a sort of fairy-story now. We met wonderful people and we had lots and lots of lovely dinner parties; people asked us to marvellous things. I thought the moment we left there, they would never speak to us again. But a lot of them still ask us out, and that's rather nice." Runcie added: "We're going to have lunch with the Queen Mum. And I've just been invited to John Birt's Christmas drinks."

Linda was indignant. "You've been invited and not me again?"

Edited extracts from Robert Runcie: *The Reluctant Archbishop*, by Humphrey Carpenter, published next month by Hodder and Stoughton, £20. ©1996 Humphrey Carpenter

No Pope had ever been to Britain. In July 1980, two months after Robert Runcie and John Paul II had met in Accra, Runcie went to see Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, to discuss the possibility of a papal visit. Carrington accepted that a visit was "likely to happen in due course", but "saw no advantage in attempting to hurry it".

The original plan was for the Anglicans and the Roman Catholics to issue a joint formal invitation to the Pope, but before this had been drawn up, Basil Hume, Heenan's successor as Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, and Derek Worlock, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, happened to be having a meeting with the Pope at Castel Gandolfo on August 23, 1980. During this, "rather on the spur of the moment", Hume asked the Pope if it might be possible for him to come to England. The Pope accepted on the spot.

I suggested to Runcie that one benefit of all the high-level contacts preceding the papal visit was that people from both Churches got to know each other — particularly himself and Basil Hume. "Yes. And the Pope, eventually, though I think he is quite difficult to get to know personally. One of the problems is that so much is done for him by his Secretary of State..."

So what impressions does he give? "I think that he's a man of genuine devotion... He's a very attractive human being. He's had to struggle with his own masculinity. I mean, he must have had many people fall for him. And I think that he has the discipline of the priest, and a person who understands human beings well enough. But he is a hardliner — on women in the ministry, and on contraception — because he thinks the pace is being set too much by a gospel of self-fulfilment..."

Once the Pope's visit to Britain was confirmed, Runcie began to consult bishops as to what might be made of the event. David Sheppard, the left-wing Bishop of Liverpool, wrote to Runcie that he had a "dream" that "you and the Pope together might do two or three great public meetings".

Hugh Montefiore wrote to Runcie that the Pope's visit put him in "something of a dilemma". On the one hand he wanted to "foster true ecumenism" and welcome "the world's foremost Christian leader". On the other hand, "I feel that I cannot just simply dance attendance on the Pope... Also, I would feel a certain revulsion at finding myself present at a papal allocution in which there was wholesale condemnation of abortion, contraception, remarriage, or the marriage of the clergy."

Runcie reassured him — "I have a great deal of sympathy with what you say" — and agreed that, on the matter of the Pope's conservative views, "the omens are not too good". The visit dates were fixed for Friday, May 28, to Wednesday June 2, 1982. Henry Chadwick, Regius Professor of

He left me to do all the blessing

THE POPE'S VISIT



The Pope "is difficult to get to know"

Divinity at Cambridge, would go to Rome to discuss directly with the Pope — who had recently escaped an assassination attempt — the nature of the service to be held at Canterbury. Chadwick had "a difficult week beset by very high tensions".

The Holy Father, frankly confessed to me that he could not at present imagine what kind of unity we could have with one another which would not entail some kind of surrender of principle by the Roman Catholic Church... And yet personal contact at the right kind of level is obviously extraordinarily congenial to them. We may irritate Rome, but we also fascinate Rome."

Chadwick added: "The most remarkable revelation of my visit was the evident pressure being put on the Pope by conservative English Roman Catholics to cancel the visit to Canterbury as mixed bathing with heretics and schismatics... Top Cardinals in the Curia... feared that there might be some unscripted confrontation, humiliating the Pope. My assurance that the

Archbishop of Canterbury wanted everything agreed in advance reassured them, and the opposition died."

Chadwick had spoken to the Pope of Protestant objections to his visit. In April 1981, Enoch Powell had written to Runcie, saying he hoped the visit would not compromise "the royal supremacy and the authority of Parliament". A letter from the Church of England Evangelical Council expressed fears that "the Roman Catholic diplomatic and propaganda machine" would attempt to make "capital" out of the visit. The Free Church of Scotland... observed that "the claims of the See of Rome are incompatible with the history of the early church".

On March 11, 1982, Runcie was on a visit to Liverpool when Protestant demonstrators took up shouts of "Judas" and "traitor".

The demonstration had the opposite effect from that intended, causing most evangelicals in the Church of England, and members of the free churches, to dissociate themselves from such extremism. But while sectarian objections to the visit died down, it began to come under threat from the Falklands War.

Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands on April 2, 1982, and a British task force sailed for the South Atlantic within a few days.

The fact that Britain was in military conflict with a Catholic country, Argentina, led the Vatican to state by May 23, 1982 that the papal visit would have to be cancelled unless there was a ceasefire... The British Government now offered to withdraw from official participation in the visit, and the Vatican agreed that it could go ahead.

The Pope landed at Gatwick on Friday, May 28, went to London for Mass at Westminster Cathedral and a private meeting with the Queen, and the next morning flew by helicopter to Canterbury for the cathedral service.

"The papal visit was totally surrounded by the Falklands," Runcie told me, "and it was difficult to put my mind to it. But I can remember driving into Canterbury, and the Pope comparing it to Cracow... he was taking it all in, and I remember that when he processed into the cathedral he didn't bless anyone in the crowd — he expected me to do all the blessing. One of the most moving moments of my life was entering the cathedral, and the enormous explosion of welcome and praise which drowned the choir. And I remember how good he was at lunch — and how envious I was of his valet, getting him everything, his comb and that sort of thing."

"The Pope was quite good with the ecumenical leaders. And what was interesting was that the Quakers and the Protestants were amazingly deferential, and the man who was really pugnacious was the representative of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, the Bishop of Edinburgh. He asked the Pope some very direct questions about where he intended to take the Church. That could have got something going, had we had more time."

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THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

TOMORROW

Runcie on Terry Waite

'He always enjoyed centre stage; he was what Oliver North once called a grandstander — but forgivably

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Why I can't do business with Blair

Lord Hanson says the boardroom has much to fear from new Labour

The Labour Party is doing its utmost to convince voters that it really is new; that it has abandoned its debilitating envy of success and subsidising of inefficiency. Tony Blair, we are assured, has no intention of soaking the rich. His recent proposals for business and industry have been presented as tax-reducing and non-interventionist. Well... let's take a look.

Despite new gloss, old Labour is alive and kicking, even in the Shadow Cabinet. Clare Short has been demoted for saying that anyone earning as much as an MP should pay more tax, but Michael Meacher, newly promoted as "green" spokesman, says he is ready to consider imposing higher taxes on the "rich", although it is difficult to find out whom Labour includes in that category. Mr Meacher also wants employee involvement in company decision-making, including pay differentials.

Last week's *New Opportunities for Business* justifies boardroom suspicion of new Labour. It reveals that Labour still stands for government regulation and is hostile to competition, all of which would be damaging to producers, employees and consumers.

While posing as a friend of small businesses, Labour plans to impose on them the social chapter and a minimum wage. This flies in the face of Britain's achievements on unemployment and productivity, which continue to be better than those of Germany, France or Italy, and would certainly destroy what the OECD recently termed our "economic environment conducive to job creation".

Even without the social chapter and a minimum wage, it is hard for businesses to compete. But when small businesses encounter difficulties, Labour blames a scapegoat: the financial institutions, "which fail to understand their special needs". We have heard that calumny before. To deal with this supposed problem, Labour would develop "business incubators" (how do you fancy that, small businessmen?) and a "rescue culture" (shades of Harold Wilson?).

What do these phrases mean? They mean interfering with banks and other independent lenders, using "taxpayers' money" — your money — to shore up failing enterprises, as if unaccountable civil servants and local politicians would be more prudent than regulated institutions which are responsible to their shareholders.

Much the same might be said about Labour's proposed "regional development agencies". Intended to attract voters in Scotland, Wales and other regions, these will only increase local bureaucracy. What guarantee is there that these super-grants will not simply divert funds — your money — from productive enterprises, which loathe government interference, to unproductive ones which have not been able to convince investors of their viability?

Indicative of Labour's true colours is its proposal on takeover bids. What it deems "hostile" bids, presumably those opposed by management, must be "in the public interest" (whatever that means) before a Labour government would allow them to proceed. The effect would be to reinforce managerial incompetence. And which business genius will decide the "public interest"? Or should we read "union interest" between the lines?

Despite the manifesto's complaint about "over-regulation", we are promised a new Companies Act

and a raft of "voluntary" codes of conduct to govern the operation of companies. Heaven forbid. This would mean mountains of paperwork and bureaucratic administration. The only beneficiaries would be lawyers and accountants. Does Labour really believe this will help business, including employees and shareholders — plus the almost forgotten consumer?

Labour's soul is tellingly revealed in two other elements of the manifesto. First, a "windfall tax" is to be imposed on privatised utilities; a retrospective tax on a successful policy which was underwritten by the original shareholders. Labour resents this success. Market confidence will be undermined in these industries, and probably others, which are already highly regulated and controlled. It will militate against consumer interests and the utilities' efficiency.

Secondly, the proceeds of the tax will be dumped into a "programme of employment" and training for 18 to 25-year-olds — training which would be unnecessary if local government had not tailored its educational establishments to its own political devices. This is old Labour with a vengeance. Instead of ensuring that the £38 billion we already spend on education is properly spent, Labour would take yet more cash from the productive sector of the economy.

Labour's effrontery on education is staggering. In the manifesto it talks about raising school standards as if this is something which has been outside its control. Labour and its supporters have for years consistently opposed the measures necessary to achieve this, even though the vast majority of state schools are run by Labour-dominated local authorities. No wonder Mr and Mrs Blair personally have opted for a better solution to their children's education.

In the vast townships where the failures are worst, Labour has been in control for decades. In last year's primary school maths tests, for example, Mr Blunkett's Sheffield came 97th out of 107 local authorities. How does that look to prospective business employers?

Labour says it will reduce class sizes to improve literacy and numeracy, despite acknowledging that this will have a marginal effect at most. There is no mention of what would make a difference — phonics, basic arithmetic, disciplined whole class teaching — but this is hardly surprising, for it would challenge assumptions dear to the teacher unions, with which new Labour is still closely linked.

New Opportunities for Business has been put forward as marking the change from old Labour to new. But traditional Labour hostility to privatisation and competition are still there, as is protection of producer interests and an unbridled desire to regulate and interfere.

Tony Blair and Gordon Brown want us to think of them as committed to financial rectitude and low taxation — hence the proposed tax rate of 10p. As the Institute for Fiscal Studies points out, this will cost £84.0 billion. Where from? And how will all the new quangoes and subsidies be paid for? "All will be revealed," we are told. Yes? As a somewhat cynical Yorkshireman, I have to say: "Show me, now, before we cast our votes." The manifesto does not encourage me one iota to place my bet on new Labour.

The author is the chairman of Hanson plc.



"DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH, DAD. YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO STRIKE..."

Canterbury's tales

Lord Runcie chose Humphrey Carpenter with a twinkle in his eye

In all the uproar surrounding Humphrey Carpenter's biography of Lord Runcie, the thundering about betrayal and tape-recorders and turbulent biographers who simply don't understand the innards of the Established Church, the one opinion nobody seems to have asked is God's. I am prepared to bet that God finds it hilarious.

He is, after all, well on the record as avoiding Pharisees and priests, and ecclesiastical buildings with cash-desks to spend his time with riff-raff: artisans and Samaritans and that dreadful Magdalen woman. He could hold his own with theoreticians in the temple as a boy, but as a preacher preferred to convey wisdom through the personal, the anecdotal, the entertaining: that rich man trying to manoeuvre his camel through the Needle's Eye gate, the idiot who buried his talents, the woman who loved much, the relatives who wept so sadly for Lazarus that he was excused being dead. He appreciated Martha's administrative bustle, but pointed out that Mary, who listened, had the better part. He would have got on well with Lord Runcie, and probably with Humphrey Carpenter too (although, being conscious, he might have sabotaged the tape-recorder). As far as God is concerned, there seems to be no problem.

The row about the Carpenter biography is not really about indiscretion: it is about attitude. Nor, I suspect, is the relationship between Lord Runcie and Humphrey Carpenter nearly so adversarial as some pretend. Read the subject's postscript in the book: "I have done my best to die before this book is published. It now seems possible that I may not succeed." Is that the phrasing of an outraged man, or just a twinklingly useful one? Lord Runcie then quotes "It is not justice I need, but Mercy... there is much that is just and more that is merciful in your story." There is, he adds, a lot of "burling" that he never imagined he would see in print: he criticises Carpenter for not having quite grasped what it was like to be Archbishop of Canterbury. But: "I shall try to keep my sense of humour and the perspective of eternity."

Of course Lord Runcie must publicly distance himself from the Pharisee Establishment expects no less. Archbishops of Canterbury, after all, are chaps with those of a more hagiographical

tings. There are plenty of pained and dignified voices ready to speak of "lack of depth and substance" and "frothy journalism": plenty of weasels like the venerable-thought Ven George Austin to take a swing at all the gentle liberalism that Robert Runcie stood for. It clearly would not do for the former Archbishop to take the platform with his Boswell and openly endorse every word of those fireside chats. Nonetheless, the twinkle has not gone from his eye: Lord Runcie is no dupe; he is an adult, a historian, a philosopher, a joker, a very

Libby Purves

views around, out of context, during the royal divorce row. Plenty of writers would have. So I think we are free to read and enjoy what Lord Runcie said without guilt (and no, this has nothing to do with the fact that *The Times* is serialising it: I am quite capable of maintaining a sullen silence when I dislike what the paper does).

Runcie cuts refreshingly through obfuscation. Gay clerics may bridle at his remark that they make him nervous because "I've always been conscious that they might stab me in the back because I wasn't one of them". Yet it was high time somebody aired the fact that while there are many kindly, virtuous, unmalicious homosexuals in the Church of England, there is also a nest of bitchy, high-church high-camp vipers, emerging from particular theological colleges where they call one another "Gladys" and "Mabel" and even the lecturers say "come on, girls! Something of this is uncovered, unflattering, in the book: good for it."

As for the Royal Family, the insights are pure gold. It is time that somebody expressed exasperation at the way the Prince of Wales

sides with what Runcie calls "the Spectator gang" on the formal language of the Prayer Book and yet embraces every kind of waffly feelgood spirituality as "defender of faith". The Prince of Wales's attitude to the Established Church is important, and the perspective of a former Cantuar is very useful indeed to a nation which must make its mind up both about the heir and the Established Church.

As for his portrait of Diana, it is touching and kindly. The Prince thought she needed religious instruction, so the Archbishop tried some "not very successful confirmation talks". Here again, Robert Runcie's humanity breaks gloriously through the purple and gilt carapace: "What I quickly saw she needed was some encouragement and some 'Are you all right, girl?'". He encouraged her through "talk about people, about personalities", well understanding the value of such anecdotal reassurance. He is clearly a man whose feminine side is important, and a better man for that. The story that his chaplain found Charles's very voice "seriously depressed" before the wedding is valuable too. Of course he was; he has told us so through Jonathan Dimbleby. History will have to sort out how one man's depression and clouded judgment, coupled with a commanding family, led to a marriage that may yet bring down the royal house.

Equally perceptive is Lord Runcie's evocation of the strangely embarrassing quality of the Queen's shyness, the uncertainty that people feel in her presence, and yet also of her steadfastness in going out of her way to support her embattled Archbishop during the miners' strike. Not to mention the glorious images of Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister being "like sitting next to electricity", and of "Willie Whitelaw and my other friends" responding to anti-government sermons by saying mournfully: "You've got to remember it's all very difficult."

These are perhaps not supporting beams of history, but they are invaluable rags of authentic upholstery. We need them all the more because, unlike other rags from that era, from the likes of Alan Clark, they are given without malice. This is gossip underpinned by charity: stories that make events understandable. It is a humble, a human, a perfectly valid way for a man of God to communicate.

Foster a sky-high London

Anatole Kaletsky welcomes our tallest tower

Sir Norman Foster wants to build Europe's tallest building on the site of the Baltic Exchange in London. And why not? Because his plan will provoke howls of outrage. It will dominate the London skyline. It will overwhelm St Paul's Cathedral. It will be a monstrous carbuncle. It will destroy the medieval intimacy, or (take your pick) the Victorian splendour, of the City of London. It will add to the glut of City offices filled by flashy barrow-boys from Romford and will probably come onto the market at exactly the moment of the next economic slump.

All of these accusations may well be valid — although people who denounce the Foster plan on the architectural merits of the building itself might do well to take a closer look at what seems to be an imaginative and exciting design. But such accusations are completely beside the point.

The point is that a host of monstrous carbuncles already dominate London's shapeless skyline. The NatWest and Telecom Towers, Centre Point and the Barbican have long since broken the coherence and proportions of London's skyline, making it one of the ugliest cities in Europe to view from afar.

St Paul's is already overwhelmed, hemmed-in and insulted by hideous low-rise buildings — not least the recently-completed concrete bunker of Blackfriars Station, supposedly designed to reopen the famous view of the Cathedral from Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill.

As for the few remaining corners of medieval intimacy and Victorian splendour which have survived the greed of the developers and the insouciance of London's planners, these depend on how buildings look and function at street level, not on whether they rise 100 or 1,000ft into the air.

I am not an architect, a planner, a conservationist or any other kind of expert. But, having lived for the past 20 years alternately in London and New York, this much is evident even to me.

Don't get me wrong. I do not like skyscrapers in London, and I certainly do not prefer Modernism to warmer, more humane architectural styles. On the contrary, my architectural predilections, for what they are worth, are firmly on the side of the nostalgic traditionalists who follow the Prince of Wales. I believe passionately in preserving buildings from before the First World War. I curse British Telecom for trying to destroy the red Jubilee telephone boxes, and I dream of restoring Victorian lantern-style lamp-posts to the streets of London. Why then do I hope that Sir Norman Foster will build his Millennium Tower?

The negative argument is that London has not had a skyline worth preserving for 50 years, since the planners allowed the Hilton Hotel, the Knightsbridge Barracks and Centre Point. Since then, brutalist Modernism has ruined one area of central London after another, the most tragic examples being the area around St Paul's and government-sponsored concrete blocks in Victoria Street. After this destruction, the only hope of restoring some beauty to the streets of central London lies in the demolition of the 1960s monstrosities. And the only way to promote this demolition is to combine the rigorous preservation of pre-1914 buildings with the construction of bigger and better buildings which will tempt tenants away from the eyesores of the 1960s.

This is a process which, thankfully, has begun, largely because of a social change which has transformed the economics of large skyscrapers as the Millennium Tower. Very large skyscrapers are in demand because of welcome changes in the social psychology of office work. People now work in huge open-plan spaces instead of private offices. Today's buildings are designed to accommodate and encourage social interaction, fluidity and an appearance of equality. These are considered so important that banks, insurance companies and other large employers are willing to pay far higher rents for buildings with large floor plans than for older, smaller buildings.

Finally, there is an aesthetic argument for more skyscrapers. Once the balance of a city's architecture has shifted so far against the past, the towering walls of enormous skyscrapers can actually enhance the intimacy of a carefully preserved older quarter — as it does, for example, in Wall Street, Broadway and Nassau Street in downtown New York. And clusters of ever-larger high-rise buildings, far from destroying views and obliterating individual buildings, can actually transform a city skyline into a sort of collective work of art. Who could deny that the views of Lower Manhattan from Brooklyn Bridge or the Holland Tunnel approach are among the wonders of the world? Or that the combined beauty of this man-made mountain is infinitely greater than the sum of its parts?

Gut reaction

DIANA, Princess of Wales, has reacted with dismay to Humphrey Carpenter's biography of Lord Runcie, as serialised in *The Times* this week.

Hitherto, the Princess has regarded Lord Runcie as a close friend. But their relationship may well founder after Runcie's description of her as an actress and a schemer.

During a small dinner at the weekend in London, the Princess said she had seen the biography. "She said that she was particularly upset, as she had always held him in the greatest esteem," explains a guest. "She had looked upon him as a supporter and personal friend ever since he officiated at the ill-fated wedding in 1981."

Lord Runcie discloses in the biography that the Prince of Wales appeared to be depressed about the prospect of getting married. He also says that he knew of the relationship between the Prince and Camilla Parker Bowles before it became public. And he talks of a conversation he enjoyed with the Princess at a banquet. "How goes it?" he asked, in that demotic way that archbishops have these days.

she replied, in the same vernacular vein, tapping her midriff. The message, according to Runcie, was that the Princess had guts. Runcie too will need guts on his next encounter with Diana.

● The Prince of Wales's friend the Earl of Shelburne is celebrating hitting his first hole-in-one. The earl managed the feat



on a course in Perthshire. Drinks all round.

Cash buyers

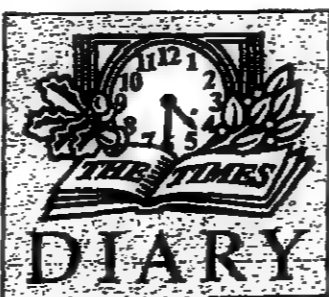
FOR the first time in more than 50 years, cash-rich cricket fans will have the chance to jump the 20-year queue to become members of Marylebone Cricket Club. The club is planning to offer 250 life memberships at £10,000 a piece to raise money for its new grandstand.

Stuffer members — the sort who tend to wear MCC colours even on holidays abroad in the hope of a glimmer of recognition — are appalled. "Very sad," harrumphed one. "It's a queue-barging opportunity for the nouveau riches. Too tacky for words."

But the grandstand has to be paid for, say the officials. "The existing grandstand was financed in exactly the same way in the 1920s," says the club, "by the sale of life memberships. We're using exactly the same formula today as then."

Who benefits?

AS IAN BOTHAM appeals against the result of his libel case against Imran Khan, I have news of a financial blow to Botham's fellow court contestant, Allan Lamb.



the committee organising his testimonial year. The former England cricketer's benefit year in 1988 yielded more than £100,000, and a similar windfall would be expected this time round. "Charles has resigned because he has moved to South Africa. He no longer has the time. It's just that he is totally committed over there," says Lamb.

Indeed he is. He has legal wrangles of his own. He is planning to defend himself against claims that he wrecked the marriage of Cape Town businessman Don Collopy by having an affair with his wife, Chantal. Spencer first met Chantal at a party in 1994 thrown by Allan Lamb.

Closed door

THE ANGLICAN Church's floral

pinching modernisers in Berlin this evening where the local C of E church is threatened with closure. St George's was given to the British by the citizens of Berlin in 1945. Until 1991 it was used largely by the military and run by an army chaplain. Since the withdrawal of the Armed Forces and their financial support, however, it has struggled.

The local vicar, John Turner, stands accused of failing to put his back into the church's survival. Chief among his foes is Deborah Engler, resident in Berlin for 20 years. "Perhaps we're clinging to the old idea of the parish priest, but Turner doesn't give a damn."

The Anglican authorities regard Engler and her troops as a lunatic fringe. "Nothing has been decided," they say. "But the church is one of our most heavily subsidised, and the Lutherans are offering an ecumenical olive-branch by letting them have their services in their cathedral."

Baton charge

THRUSTING up into music's firmament is Daniel Harding, 21, who will tomorrow night conduct the Berlin Philharmonic in its home town.

The protégé of Sir Simon Rattle, honcho at the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Harding



Harding: precioso

was merely a guest, watching the orchestra rehearse when its conductor, Franz "Worse than most" Welser-Möst went down with throat trouble, which apparently makes conducting impossible.

From his place in the stalls, Britain's great balon hope was asked to stand in and must be the youngest ever to conduct the orchestra, once the fiefdom of the terrifying Herbert von Karajan, in a programme of Dvořák, Brahms and Berlioz.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل



PRINCE AND PRELATE

Charles can still govern the Church of England

The Prince of Wales is one of the very few people in Britain who is forced by the circumstances of his birth to hold a certain faith. A man with less introspective tendencies might find such a constraint no more than an inconvenience. But the Prince has a questing soul. So it is perhaps unsurprising to hear from Lord Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury, that the heir to the throne is "disenchanted" with the Church of England.

If, as we greatly hope, the Prince of Wales ascends the throne, he will become Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England. It would help, says Lord Runcie, if he were to love the institution "a bit more". The Prince has been baptised and confirmed in the Church of England and is a regular communicant. He is passionate about church architecture, church music and the language of the Prayer Book. But he is clearly attracted by other religions too. In his interview with Jonathan Dimbleby, the Prince even posed the possibility that he might one day become "defender of faith" instead, an extended, multicultural version of his mother's current role.

It is hard to see how such a position could coexist with the continuing establishment of the Church of England. But disestablishment, if it ever happened, should be a matter for the Church, not the monarch. There are many reasons why disestablishment could bring bad consequences; such consequences would be worse, however, if the rift were precipitated by the Prince's "disenchantment" or his marital status.

None of us has a window onto the Prince's soul. But even supposing that his Anglican faith were somewhat less secure than that of his mother's, would that really threaten a loosening of the links between Church and State? The future Supreme Governor would still be a spiritual man who has done his best to support the Church's efforts to bring

holiness into human lives. The spiritual aspect of the Prince's character is beyond doubt. He has tried earnestly to open people's eyes to the existence of another dimension beyond the material. Since his teenage years, he has exhibited an intellectual curiosity bordering on restlessness about the meaning of life in general and religion in particular. The Prince of Wales seems to have unbundled the religion of his upbringing and tried to put it back together in a way that satisfies his quest for truth.

This preference for an *à la carte* faith is different from the *table d'hôte* of the generation before him. That is a measure of the more questioning, less deferential age in which he grew up. There are some who accept the conventional wisdom, and others who try to arrive at their own beliefs through contemplation, analysis and observation. The Prince of Wales is one of the latter, and his very curiosity about spirituality and the derivation of morality ought to make him just as interesting a head of the Church as an unquestioning Anglican who attends church merely through force of habit.

Many deeply committed Christians have agonised about their faith. The Prince of Wales is not alone in this. He is right to recognise that his future subjects number many of other religions, whose loyalty he should seek. But the Church of England will continue, for the foreseeable future, to have a special place in the life of the monarch.

So the heir to the throne has a duty to try to reconcile his doubts with the job that he will be required to do. He should seize on opportunities to show his commitment to the church whose titular leadership he will one day hold. Anglicanism is a broad church — some would say too broad. It can easily accommodate his beliefs. If he took the former Archbishop's advice, and learnt to love the Church a little more, his affection would be gladly returned.

Lord Runcie's revelations and their repercussions

From the Bishop of St Germans

Sir, Choosing a biographer is clearly a dangerous thing to do. Robert Runcie, it seems, enjoyed talking with Humphrey Carpenter and did so at length over several years (Weekend extracts September 7; reports September 7, 9). Yet, despite the largely affectionate portrait Carpenter has written, the former Archbishop is not content. It's not hard to see why.

A tape recorder was running during their lengthy conversations. Carpenter has used much of this, sometimes verbatim, whereas Runcie understood it was for background information and scene-setting. So, instead of a biography we have a lively journalistic character sketch.

The problem is that there is a great deal of archival material at Lambeth Palace that remains unrecorded and ungested, even though Carpenter had access to it. There's plenty of evidence against which to test the reminiscences of a retired archbishop and his acquaintances.

Impressions and fancies have taken the place of solid research. That's why there remains an official biography still to be written.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM ST GERMAN
(Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, 1987-93),
32 Falmouth Road,
Truro, Cornwall W7.

From the Reverend Ray Simpson

Sir, I am not surprised if Prince Charles is "disenchanted" with the Church of England, on the basis of the remarks you quote from Lord Runcie. One example of the Prince's "incon-

sistent" views as reported by Lord Runcie, "that the Church should be creating centres of healing in the inner cities — ought to be bringing together the spiritual, the intellectual and the architectural", seems to me to be a brilliant description of the Church's purpose. It is, in fact, to this that I and many others have devoted our ministry.

Although in recent times the Church of England has drifted off course, there is now a grassroots movement that seeks to return it to its holy Celtic as much as to its "Civil Service" roots.

The Community of Aidan and Hil-da, of which I am a member, was set up in 1994 to seek "the healing of the land through men, women and children who draw inspiration from the Celtic saints". Its network of members throughout the country try to follow a simple way of life that cherishes creation and which remains true to the Catholic and biblical faith first brought to these lands by gentle, radiant Christians such as St Aidan.

A new cradling of spirituality is taking place which, in my view, may prove to be as significant as that first cradling of Christianity from Lindisfarne. Inconsistency — Lord Runcie's charge — is not one of its hallmarks.

Yours faithfully,
RAY SIMPSON,
Lindisfarne Retreat,
Marygate,
Holy Island, Berwick-upon-Tweed,
September 9.

From Mr Brian North Lee

Sir, The religious attitudes of the Prince of Wales, if Lord Runcie reads them aright (September 9), give pause for thought.

What do we ask principally of our probable future monarch? That he be a man of his time is essential, as is dedication and sensitivity to the nation's harmony and wellbeing.

In all these matters I have nothing but praise for the Prince. If he is less in love with the Church of England than desired, it is up to the Church to ponder the probable causes of a disenchantment many share.

No religious organisation has a monopoly of spiritual insight. The fact that people have turned additionally, and in genuine need, to wider and sometimes lay sources of inspiration can benefit churches and act as a caution to those which are too ready to sweep uncomfortable and unresolved matters under the carpet.

I'm much less concerned to see the Prince of Wales as a future Supreme Governor of the Church of England than to see him as a searcher after the truth, combining integrity with unblinkered concern and honest caring. He has not let us down in these at all, and we should be grateful for him.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN NORTH LEE,
32 Barrowgate Road, Chiswick, W4,
September 9.

From Prebendary Rodney Schofield

Sir, Following Lord Runcie's revelations, it is now at all likely that any members of the Royal Family, or for that matter anyone in the public eye, will confide in an Anglican bishop ever again?

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY SCHOFIELD,
West Monkton Rectory,
Taunton, Somerset,
September 9.

Labour referendums

From the Shadow Home Secretary

Sir, The headline to your report of September 6, "Labour plans 13 referendums . . .", gave a wholly misleading impression of the effect on voters of our proposals for democratic change.

Three, not 13, is the maximum number of times any British voter could be invited to take part in a referendum during a four or five-year Parliament following the election of a Labour government.

1. There will be a devolution referendum in Scotland, Wales and in those English regions where clear demand for an elected assembly is evident.
2. There will be a UK-wide referendum on the best voting system for the Westminster Parliament.
3. On the single European currency, as our draft manifesto (*New Labour, New Life for Britain*) states, "if there is a decision to join, the consent of the people will be sought either in an election or through a referendum".

Yours sincerely,
JACK STRAW,
House of Commons,
September 8.

Coastal hazards

From Mrs G. F. Graham

Sir, After the tragic deaths of the Loughlin children at Holme, Norfolk (report, September 4) should not more efforts be made to make tourists aware of the particular hazards of the beaches they visit?

East Coast beaches are, on the whole, not gently sloping flat stretches of sand, but contain sandbanks and swatches (lower "moats" around the banks).

As the tide rises, water swirls into the swatches, very quickly cutting off anyone standing on the sandbanks. I've seen a family forced to wade through the swatch to safety, the parents carrying their children on their shoulders. Moreover, the sideways swirl of the water is fast and can easily tug a child off its feet.

On the Lincolnshire coast, some swatches contain very sticky mud which can make a child slip over. South and West coasts pose other threats, such as steeply shelving beaches or the risk of being cut off by the tide in coves with sheer cliffs.

May I suggest that every seaside resort should erect prominent notices detailing local hazards for visitors to the area?

Yours faithfully,
G. F. GRAHAM,
3 Royle Close,
Orton Longueville,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire,
September 7.

Sit still vac?

From Mr Jeremy Posnansky, QC

Sir, Mr Simon Preston's colleague (letter, August 31), whose attempts to advertise a vacancy for a married couple to act as caretakers on his estate have been frustrated by a veto on the use of the words "man", "woman", "husband", "wife" or "married couple", might not offend the magazine's censor if his advertisement stated:

"Caretakers (2) wanted for country estate. Successful candidates must share a valid marriage certificate."

Yours faithfully,

Criticism of Crown Court judges

From Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, When the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) was established in 1966 it became the policy of that court that, in any case where the conduct of the trial by a High Court judge was being criticised, the judgment of the court would invariably be delivered by the presiding judge — that is to say, either the Lord Chief Justice or a Lord Justice of Appeal.

Any other member of the court who was sitting on an appeal — one or other of the two High Court judges of the Queen's Bench Division — would frequently be invited by the presiding judge to deliver judgment where the court was criticising the handling of the trial by a circuit judge. The rationale of that policy was the desire to preserve the *amour-propre* of the judiciary at both levels of the hierarchy

within the criminal justice system. This sensible arrangement appears now to be in jeopardy, following the recent extension of the composition of the court by the addition of some senior circuit judges.

The latter have found themselves on occasion being invited, uncomfortably, to deliver judgments of the court which are critical of colleagues in the Crown Court.

Such an apparent departure from the previous policy can do nothing either to enhance the collegiality of the court or to promote a sound relationship between the court and the judges trying crime in the Crown Courts up and down the country.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
2 Rippledale Grove, NI,
September 5.

Civil Service ethos

From Mr Peter Bottomley, MP for Elibank (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Donald Acheson (letter, September 5) properly praises the intellectual capacity and the unbiased advice of civil servants.

He is less completely right in referring to a practice of public derogation which he asserts was prevalent during the administration in which I served as a parliamentary private secretary and later as an assistant minister.

There is an unfortunate fashion for newspapers and broadcasters not to publish praise and recognition for the ethos and practice of the civil and public services. Here is an example. After Margaret Thatcher invited me in to say I would not be kept as a member of government, a national newspaper

asked me for an article on a subject of my choice. I suggested they would not be pleased but they told me to go ahead.

The title was "Broadcasting the truth about public service". I gave examples of the general high respect for the individuals and the system of the Civil Service, together with recognition of the exceptional qualities and breadth of public broadcasting. It was spiked.

Only once during my service did a minister try to refer to his estimate of the political sympathy of officials. I said it would not be necessary as it would not show in their work. It never did, for or against the then positions of any party.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BOTTOMLEY,
House of Commons,
September 5.

Cancer treatment

From Dr Sidney B. Rosalki

Sir, I was sorry to read the negative remarks made by Mr Mike Fried of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund about the potential value of replacement therapy for cancer with the gene known as p53. "It looks interesting, but all the patients died" ("Bad gene corrected in cancer milestone", August 29).

Sadly, death from tumour growth is to be anticipated in all patients with advanced lung cancer. Any extension to their survival as the result of replacing this tumour-suppressor gene, if it can be achieved without exacerbating the disease, is therefore to be applauded.

Mr Fried says that for the treatment to have any value 100 per cent of cancerous cells would have to be replaced,

since otherwise any reduction in size of the tumour could only be temporary. But reducing tumour size enhances the possibility of successful tumour containment from the patient's own immunological response, from immunotherapy, or from chemotherapy, hopefully in lower and less toxic doses than might otherwise be required.

Successes and failures have punctuated conventional approaches to cancer therapy and will doubtless continue to do so with newer forms of treatment. Nevertheless, I believe these should be encouraged, and the potential of gene therapy not be so cursorily dismissed.

Yours faithfully,
SIDNEY B. ROSALKI,
Bewley House,
32 Jamestown Road, NW1,
September 3.

From Mr T. Martin Clucas

Sir, Perhaps Mr Preston's colleague should try advertising for a multi-gender duo and, to underscore his ideal, add (matrimonially-linked). Given time, the conventional advertisement might become "Wanted: M-GD (m-l) caretakers".

Yours faithfully,
T. MARTIN CLUCAS,
Willoughby House,
West Mersea, Essex.

From Mr Michael E. Jones

Sir, Two matrimonially-linked labour unions, perhaps?

Yours faithfully,

Resting place for heart of the Bruce

From Mr Paul Davies

Sir, Must it be taken for granted that the embalmed heart of Robert the Bruce be reburied in Melrose Abbey (reports, August 30 and September 3)? Could not the Scottish king's dying wish that it be taken to the Holy Land be fulfilled at last?

Just outside the medieval walls of the old city of Jerusalem, on a little hill, stands the Church of St Andrew, built to commemorate the Scots who laid down their lives in Palestine during the First World War. In the floor of the apse is a plaque commemorating the Bruce's wish for his heart to be buried in Jerusalem. Would it not be appropriate if it were now interred there?

By the way, the kirk and adjoining hospice are surrounded by a beautiful, well-tended garden. In the shade of one of its trees is a number of small headstones, one of which bears the inscription "Bruce". Staff of the hospice hardly "have the heart" to point out that this commemorates a former warden's much-loved dog.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL DAVIES
(Volunteer at St Andrew's Hospice, 1986-7),
1 Holmesdale Road,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey,
September 4.

From Mr John Price

Sir, Historic Scotland's Inspector of Monuments, Doreen Grove, may be correct in suggesting that conventional X-radiography would be unsuitable in detecting hearts in sealed lead caskets ("Light falls on legend of Robert the Bruce", September 3), although the technique can be useful for thin lead artefacts. What would be more useful is neutron radiography which can penetrate metal and show up organic remains inside containers.

Details of the technique were published about six years ago in the international archaeological science journal, *Archaeometry*. Another piece of research on the subject, published elsewhere in the 1970s, showed that at least one copper alloy box from a collection of Egyptian artefacts given to Queen Victoria contained a mummified cat.

Neutron radiography allows both metal and organic material to be shown on the radiographic plate but does require a nuclear reactor. Perhaps Historic Scotland could liaise with government nuclear research facilities to establish what can be found inside sealed metal containers?

Although hearts in lead caskets are not unknown from archaeological excavations, what is not widely known is that there is a good network of several dozen X-ray machines under the control of archaeological conservators throughout the UK.

With the recent changes in treasure trove legislation and the suggestion from the Department of National Heritage that 400,000 artefacts are being found annually, one wonders whether improved arrangements could be made to allow a significant proportion to undergo radiographic examination.

This not only would provide additional interest for the finder when there is a highly corroded and shapeless lump, but would often provide an excellent record for the museum archive and archaeological specialist.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PRICE
(Chief Conservator, 1972-91,
Ancient Monuments Laboratory),
19 Crondall Lane, Farnham, Surrey,
September 3.

Oxford groups

From Mr Robert Long

Sir, I have just spent a splendid day in Oxford with my godson. As we walked through the Meadows, I noticed at the entrance to Christ Church two queues of tourists awaiting admission to the college. Each queue had a notice above it — one read "large groups" and the other read "small groups". It is indeed comforting that in an age of relativism, some things are absolute.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT J. LONG,
23 Chalfont Road,
Great Leighs, Chelmsford, Essex,
September 5.

In tune in the womb

From Mr Peter J. Prynn

Sir, I read with some interest your report (September 5) of research at Harvard which has established that the youngest of infants can appreciate music and that, even at that tender age, consonant music is preferred to the dissonant.

My own research findings go further. My wife and I attended a number of opera performances when she was carrying our daughter Josephine. While the unborn child lay restfully through *The Marriage of Figaro* with just occasional rhythmic movements, during Bizet's *The Mask of Orpheus* she kicked and squirmed in the womb in obvious distress, which mirrored that of her father.

It is only fair to add that her mother is a great fan of Sir Harrison and Mozart and sat through both performances totally enthralled.

Yours faithfully,

BASE TROUBLE

The Okinawa rape could yet destroy a vital American alliance

The American servicemen who, a year ago this month, abducted and raped a young girl on Okinawa have been convicted and are serving their sentences. But in Japan, the Okinawa affair stubbornly refuses to go away. The unspoken accord underlying the vital US-Japan security relationship have been thrust into contention by this ugly case.

In April, President Clinton flew to Japan to offer both a formal apology for the crime and concessions to the Okinawans, who for years have complained that their small islands, which house 75 per cent of the US bases in Japan, have been made Tokyo's military "dumping ground". He also reminded the Japanese that if America yielded to popular pressure and pulled its forces out, the entire Asian region would face an arms race. Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, needs no persuading of this argument. But he has yet to convince his public.

Mr Clinton's offer to reduce the base areas in Okinawa by a fifth has so far solved nothing. Instead, Washington is caught in a confrontation between Okinawan separatists and the central Government in Tokyo. Okinawans grumble that they want more bases closed and a review of the agreements governing the status of US military personnel in Japan. On Sunday, a majority of them reinforced this message in a referendum.

Masahide Ota, the Governor of Okinawa, demands the total closure of the bases by 2015 and has meanwhile backed the thousands of Okinawan landlords who own tiny patches of the base areas and who are refusing to renew them when they expire next year. In theory, that could force the bases to close, although last month the Japanese Supreme Court rejected his claim that the American presence was an unconstitutional burden on the islands and

ruled that he must use his powers to renew the leases compulsorily. In addition, plans to move some US bases to the main Japanese archipelago have run into difficulty. The Japanese Defence Minister has been travelling the country's prefectures cap in hand, but none has so far agreed to accommodate the facilities that will have to be moved.

With Mr Ota so far ignoring the Supreme Court, the confrontation has split the governing coalition. A special session of the Diet this month is supposed to deal with the Okinawa issue before a planned US-Japanese meeting of defence and foreign ministers. But agreement is not assured. The Social Democratic Party has threatened to oppose the plans put forward by its Liberal Democrat partners. If Mr Hashimoto fails to strike a deal with Mr Ota when he meets the Okinawan Governor today, therefore, it could force the dissolution of parliament.

Since the Liberal Democrat Party is expected to gain at the expense of the Social Democrats, whose latent pacifism has been revived by the Okinawa affair, a snap election might be the best outcome. But for both Japan and America, there are risks in an "Okinawa election". The middle of an American presidential campaign is not the ideal time for Japan to be debating the merits of a security treaty which, some Republicans argue, allows Asia's wealthiest nation to avoid providing its own defence. American critics of the US-Japan treaty have already noted that it was from Guam, not Okinawa, that US B52s took off for last week's Iraq mission. China, sensing its moment, is whipping up a storm over the disputed Diaoyu-Senkaku islands. The Okinawa affair worries the Pentagon, and with reason: Asia is the last place it wants to see any weakening in an American alliance.

NOBEL HELL

Even Swedish literary judges deserve a break

The Swedes have found a new definition of hell. It is worse than all their previous attempts at infernal punishment — a week with Abba, a month of smorgasbord, a year of listening to after-dinner jokes about Volvos. Their new hell is to be a member of the committee of the Swedish Academy that judges the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Surely, you say, this should be a position full of honour and good reading? It seems not. A rule of 1901 requires at least 12 of the committee's 18 members to select the winner. But only 14 currently attend the committee's deliberations and more are threatening to drop out. The others have stopped turning up for reasons of literary pique, politics and loss of energy. One 92-year-old member says he feels tired and has nothing left to contribute. And, by a decree of King Gustav III who reigned from 1771-92, the academy is forbidden to recruit replacements. There is a serious risk that the academy will fail to obtain the quorum of 12 votes.

So like Tithonus, the Swedish academicians are tortured: their bifocals become thicker, their attention spans shorter, their tastes more frozen and every year they are forced to read new books. Like Sisyphus they roll a mountain of books up their annual hill, to find it rolling down again for another year. Then they are tormented by

controversial even than the Peace Prize. When its judges are not being ridiculed for their cabals (denying the prize to Graham Greene) they are prodded with red-hot poker for political correctness (rotating the prizes by Buggins's turn). Sometimes they are roasted for obscurity; many of Nobel's literary laureates are less well read today even than Karl A. Gjellerup and Hendrik Pontoppidan. Sometimes they are boiled in oil for cowardice; two members of the committee have not attended its meetings since 1989, because they were not allowed to denounce Iran's fatwa on Salman Rushdie.

Judging any literary prize is a burden as well as a privilege. The responsibility is heavy and so is the workload, even for naturally constant readers. Few have judged a literary prize volunteer for a second year of reading, remembering and ranking books in a league table, being rewarded with a modest honorarium and then being abused in public for their pains. The Nobel Prize's rule that its judges cannot resign but can only be thrown out or die is cruel and unnatural punishment. The great healer will eventually heal the present crisis, though Swedish academicians are long-lived. But the academy should reconsider its infernal diktat forbidding resignations and replacements, at least until infallible and



ST JAMES'S PALACE
September 9: The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Prince's Trust, this morning visited The Prince's Youth Business Trust Trade Fair at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).

His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Prince's Trust, PO 16 Centre, Newnham, Birmingham, and saw further and adult education courses in progress.

WORK HOUSE
September 9: The Duke of Kent, President, this evening attended a dinner to mark the retirement of Sir Kenneth Fernon, Chairman of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, at the Royal Thames Youth Club, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

The Oration Quarter begins today with 707 pupils. The Rev John Witherside takes up his appointment as Headmaster. Mr Simon Brennan succeeds Mr David Lincoln as Housemaster of Lockies. Mr John Witherside is Head of School and Nicola Clayton is Head Girl. Philip Westcott is Captain Football and Katharine Adair is Captain of Lacrosse. There will be a lunchtime Concert by the String Orchestra and Wind Music Society at St Martin-in-the-Fields at 1.15. The Oration Quarter at St Gaudy will be held at the School on Saturday, October 12, for pupils in the School during Long Quarter 1983 and who left in or before Oration Quarter 1988 (details from the Recorder). The Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be given by Mr J. Hastings on Wednesday, October 12. The Founder's Day Dinner will be held at the London Charterhouse on Wednesday, December 11, and the Service of Commemoration in the Memorial Chapel will take place on Friday, December 15. Exeat is on Friday, December 25. November 3 is the Quarter end. November 14, Lord's Grouse season. School. The last academic year on the present sites commenced for Senior and Junior schools on September 5. The redevelopment at Alwoodley Gables is at the half-way stage and proceeding well. Mr Ian Brails has retired and is succeeded by Mr Peter Haines. Mr Peter Haines is Principal. Mr. Roy Lunn, Mr. John Lunn and Mr. John Jordan have also retired. Head of School for the Michaelmas Term is Peter Haines of the Upper Sixth. The OLA Dinner is in the Dining Hall on Friday, October 4. Old Leos are invited to attend Open Morning on October 4. The OLA Dinner is for a last look at the old buildings. Details for Old Leos are available from the Headmaster's Secretary.

Queen's College, London
Term begins today and ends after the Carol Service at All Souls, Langham Place, to be held on Tuesday, December 17, at 2pm. Half term is from Friday, October 18, to Tuesday, October 29, including the half-term break. The Head (Head Girl) is Rochelle Batten and the Deputy Senior Students are Beemish Nafies and Jessica O'Connell. There will be a drinks party for the Class of '96 on Wednesday, September 25, at 5.30pm. There will be performances of *Macbeth* by the Class of '96 on 8 and 9.

Queen's College, Associations, which were first granted by Royal Charter in 1853, have this year been awarded to Gellian Malet-Bates (France, Maths, Italian), Beemish Nafies (Italian, French, Religious Studies, English), Ceysa Okur (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, English, Spanish), Martha, French, Spanish, Italian, Salama (History of Art, Italian, French).

Woodsdale Park School, North London
The Autumn Term began yesterday. Mr Robin Mettens takes up his appointment as Headmaster of the Preparatory of the School. The Head of the School is John Bulchard. Headboy and Headgirl of the Preparatory Department are Ajantian Arulpragasam and Katherine Rees. An Open Evening will be held at the Secondary Department on Tuesday, October 1, and an Open Day at the Preparatory and the Secondary Departments on Thursday, November 7. The International Baccalaureate Programme begins this term and an I.B. Open Evening will take place on Thursday, October 10. The Senior and Junior Department Carol Services will be held on Wednesday, December 11, and Thursday, December 12, respectively. Term ends on Friday, December 13.

Inside Manchester's magnificent new concert hall—the view the paying customers will get from their seats

BY KATE ALDERSON

THE £42 million Bridgewater Hall, the new home of the Hallé Orchestra, opens tomorrow with hopes of becoming the Carnegie of the north of England. The £2,000-ton hall, a soaring glass, steel and sandstone structure in Manchester's city centre, will resound to the world premiere of George Benjamin's new work, Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and Walton's *Bellschazzar's Feast*.

To give a flavour of the hall's commitment to both new and historical works, the second night concert will feature world premieres by Thomas Ades and John Adams. On Saturday the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, under

Daniel Barenboim, will be performing. The hall, designed specifically for classical music, is set on coiled springs to absorb vibrations from passing trams. When the massive IRA bomb exploded in Manchester in June workmen inside the 2,400-seater auditorium, insulated by the hall's double walls, heard nothing.

The Bridgewater is a welcome new home for the Halle which has been based for more than a century in the Free Trade Hall, a Victorian edifice now too shabby and cramped for a modern orchestra.

A £12 million pipe organ, the largest of its kind to be installed in Britain this century, has been brought from Denmark.

As well as housing the Hallé, the hall will be the performance base for the BBC Philharmonic and the Manchester Camerata, who between them will perform more than 100 concerts a year.

The hall, designed by Renon Howard Wood Levin architects in partnership with Arup Acoustics, will be a venue for international orchestras, celebrity recitals, late-night and lunchtime concerts as well as comedy, jazz, and popular music.

The hall has been financed with funds from Manchester City Council, Central Manchester Development Corporation and the European Development Fund and will be the first to be run independently of public subsidy.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of Victim Support, will attend the launch of Victim Support's Report on Children in Court, at Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, at 11.00; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will tour Asprey's design studios, at 12.15; as Patron of the luncheon with the chairman at Asprey, New Bond Street, at 12.15; will attend the National Osteoporosis Society's launch of the booklet *Fit and Fragile*, advice for young women athletes and dancers, their coaches and parents, at 1.30; and, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a dinner at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 7.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a service at St Andrew's Church, Holborn, at 3.55 to mark the birth of William, Prince of Wales. The Marquis, the founder of the Royal Free Hospital.

Annual meeting
The Pilgrimage
Lord Carrington, KG, CH, President of The Pilgrimage, and Sir Robert M. Worcester, Chairman, presided at the annual meeting of the society held last night at the American Embassy. Afterwards Dame Stella Rimington delivered the annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture.

Dinner
Surrey University
Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of Surrey University, and Dr Grace Dowling were the hosts at a dinner held last night at the university in honour of Sir Anthony and Lady Caro and Sir Philip Dowson, President of the Royal Academy, and Lady Dowson.

Mr Thomas Allen, singer, 52; Mr Michael Buhlt, (Michael Barry) broadcasting executive and food journalist, 55; Dr Sarah Conkley, theologian, 45; Mrs Beryl Cox, painter, 70; Mr Brian Donohoe, MP, 46; Mr John Edwards, rock guitarist, 45; Mr John Edwards, author on tropical medicine, 75; Mr Antony Hitchens, chairman, Camden, 60; Mr Christopher Hogwood, musicologist, 55; Major J.D. Makgill Crispin Maitland, former Lord-Lieutenant of Renfrewshire, 71; the Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, 67; Mr John Maynard, theatre producer, 65; Lord Nolan, 66; Mr Neville Owen, former Chief Constable, Lincolnshire, 58; Mr Arnold Palmer, golfer, 67; General Sir Antony Read, former governor, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 65; Sir Peter Ricketts, 65; Mr John Ricketts, 65; Randa Howls McDonald, 67; Mr David Richards, air historian, 66.

Mr Bill Rogers, golfer, 45; Dr Brian Smith, chairman, BAA, 68; Sir Robert Smith, former chairman, Standard Life Assurance, 69; Sir Rupert Spier, former MP, 86; Professor Carol Weight, CH, painter, 88.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir John Soane, architect, Goring-on-Thames, 1753; Mungo Park, explorer, Foulshie, Borders, 1776; Robert Koldewey, archaeologist who excavated Babylon, Bismarck, near Hatz, Germany, 1858; Cyril Connolly, critic, Coventry, 1903.

DEATHS: Marie Wallstenstrom, Gynl, pioneer for the rights of women, London, 1791; Baltheuz Vorster, Prime Minister of South Africa 1966-78, President 1978-79, Cape Town, 1992.

The RAF dropped 100,000 bombs on Dusseldorf in a single raid, 1942.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of David Nicolson will take place in St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge at 11.30am, on Wednesday, October 2.

Reception

Sedburgh School

Mr Giles Shaw, MP, Chairman of Governors, and Mr Christopher Hirst, Headmaster, hosted a Reception for Old Boys and parents of pupils, past and present, at Sedburgh School on Sunday to mark the launch of the Sedburgh School 'Towards 500' Appeal. Among those present were Lord Shaw of Northstead, Andrew McMillan, Baron of Cleghorn, and Mr Robert Swire.

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TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

BIRTHS

BIRRELL - On September 4th at Hospital, St. Raphael, Lezardine.

BIRCHBY-EM - Freeman.

BIRNEY - On September 4th to John wonderful boy.

COLLINGS - On September 7th, to David William and Edward.

COLLINS - On September 5th to John Whiteing, Highgate, N.Y. and Sherrona.

CRAGGS - On September 4th to (Tranter) Margaret, C.

DUNTER - On September 5th The Portville Hospital, St. Sanny, a daughter. Best wishes to Charles.

EDWARDS - On September 4th to Michael Elizabeth W. and sister and and Carolyn.

FERGUSON - On September 6, 1966, to Rosemary-McGowan, C. and Zola, a sister. Remarks.

FERGUSON - On September 4th to Elizabeth, a daughter. Remarks.

FERGUSON - On September 4th to Lisa (McGowan), a daughter. Remarks.

HEPNER - On September 4, 1966, to Scott, a daughter. Remarks.

JEMAL - On September 4th to Doc (McGowan), a daughter. Remarks.

JONES - On September 4, 1966, to Phyllis and Gregory Grace Natalie and children.

MAHONEY - On September 4th to Madeline (McGowan), a daughter. Remarks.

McDONOUGH - On September 1st 1966, to Elyse and Barry, a daughter. Remarks.

McNEWMAN - On September 4th to Lisa Marie, a daughter. Remarks.

NEX - On September 4th to Farnand and Barry, a daughter. Remarks.

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MAJOR-GENERAL FRANK RICHARDSON

Richardson was organising the recovery of casualties under fire, when one of the Scottish battalions faltered. Its attack might have failed, had it not been for Richardson entering the fray with his pipes, which he always had with him, restoring morale among the men and playing them forward again in the



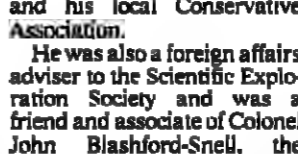
His early service was in India, where he distinguished himself not only medically and militarily, but also on the polo field and in pig-sticking up country. He took part in several significant Himalayan expeditions to the Upper Kumaum, Garhiwal, and Tibet in 1931, and to Kashmir and Kishtwar in 1932. Invalided home in 1933, he returned to India again in March 1939, and by 1941 was commanding the 66th Field Ambulance in 5th Indian Division at Keran. After the Eritrean campaign was over, he served in Syria, Lebanon and the Western Desert, taking part in the

battle of El Alamein and the subsequent advance into Tunisia with the 51st Highland Division. Landing with 160th Field Ambulance in Normandy in June 1944, he commanded it throughout the North West European Campaign until he became Assistant Director of Medical Services of the 15th Scottish Division during the grim winter battles of the Reichswald in early 1945, and in the subsequent spring crossing of the Rhine and advance to the Elbe.

After the war he gained widening experience in medical appointments in British military hospitals and field

GEORGE BAKER

a time in Britain's delegation to the Trusteeship Council at the UN. Otherwise he remained in Tanganyika for a total of 16 years, until its emergence as the independent state of Tanzania in 1962. His



He and his wife moved to Devon from their Sussex home 12 years ago so as to be nearer their family. But Baker became increasingly incapacitated through diabetes.

He is survived by his wife Audrey and two daughters.

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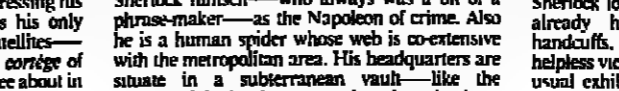
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CHARLES KIRBO

breakness. He actually figures among the minor Sherlocks, so to speak, like the tubalium Malvolios who follow Mr. Twelfth Night. He has a satellite



calling blinds, cords (for binding with), crowbars, and all the other of a criminal museum. Sherlock self as a clergyman and the

minor Sherlocks, so to speak, like the *cortège* of subaltern Malvolios who follow Mr. Tree about in *Twelfth Night*. He has a satellite who assumes disguises at a moment's notice—a butler, a

is a human spider whose web is co-extensive with the metropolitan area. His headquarters are in a subterranean vault—like the villain's lair in the pantomime introduction.

already hinted, is strewn with revolvers, handcuffs, signalling blinds, cords (for binding helpless victims with), crowbars, and all the other usual exhibits of a criminal museum. Sherlock disposes himself as a connoisseur.

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Sally Watts finds a burgeoning £3 billion home-grown food industry

Traditional tastes of Britain take off

With hundreds of small suppliers reviving traditional regional recipes and flavours, or creating new products, specialty food has become a growth area.

This sector, with its preserves, condiments and local cheeses, air-dried hams, smoked and cured fish and traditional sausages, employs around 20,000 people and has an annual turnover of about £3 billion.

According to Food From Britain (FFB), which promotes British food and drink worldwide, nearly a quarter of the sector employs three or four people; one fifth employs between ten and 100. A recent MORI survey, to which 150 producers responded, showed the average annual turnover was about £250,000. Many increased turnover by 100 per cent year on year.

"This reflects their management skills rather than the area they are in," says Fiona Gately, FFB marketing manager. "They are not setting up with huge amounts of capital. Some are redundant; they don't want to work for a big company again, they have a driving interest in food and some money to invest. A lot have a professional background, which can give them a good start."

Businesses range from the small supplier, running his own delivery service around delicatessens, farm shops, specialty food shops and catering outlets, to those selling to manufacturers and wholesalers.

In this category is Michael and

Diana Slack's farm-based business near Penrith, Cumbria, which produces home-cured, air-dried bacon and ham, the latter cooked in cider with flavourings such as juniper berries or honey and cinnamon. Outlets include the local shop at Orton and Harrods, which stocks some of Mr Slack's huge output of traditional Cumberland sausages. FFB, which is sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has training packages on aspects such as PR, hygiene legislation, business planning and strategic management; more subjects are in preparation. Another activity will be to help specialty groups to export.

Training and other initiatives are channelled through 15 regional and county groups — Taste Of The West, Tastes Of Anglia, Yorkshire Pantry — which work closely with their members to promote business. In addition, there are a Taste Of Ulster, Scottish Enterprise and Welsh Food Promotions.

Events bring suppliers and buyers together. Next February 100 specialty producers will be at the International Food Exhibition at Earl's Court, London.

Success involves hard work and careful planning. Mrs Gately says: "Often they have to reinvest all their profits in order to continue growing. They can't stand still. They must always look for new ranges, new markets."

Food From Britain: 123 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SA. Tel: 0171 233 5111.



Ross Southwell of Taylors Mustard, which exports to the US, Canada and Japan, says a passion for food helps a business to succeed

Hot and cold succeed in the niche market by maintaining quality

When Ross Southwell took over the 160-year-old Taylors Mustard company in 1990, turnover was £70,000. Today, with large, new premises at Tattenhall, Cheshire, and a wide range of mustards, oils, vinegars and dressings, it is approaching £15 million. Exports go to Canada, the US, Japan and other countries.

"You must have a passion for food and know the market," says Mr Southwell, who has been in the industry for 20 years. "Then find a specialist field. The quality market is nowhere near saturation. There's always potential for someone with a good, high-quality product, but they must keep up the standard."

His wife, Isabel, runs the factory while he manages the business side. They employ 12 full-timers, increased by 30 from July to handle the Christmas trade.

Mr Southwell stresses the value of good financial management, and advises suppliers taking on

premises: "Hygiene requirements are constantly tightening, so get the environmental health officer in at the planning stage. It's expensive — but cheaper in the long run."

Some suppliers spot a gap and develop a niche market. Cally and Richard Affleck began Boaters Flavoured Coffee Company at their cottage in 1989, after he had worked

in an American flavoured-coffee firm to learn the technique. They started with £1,000 and now have a £1.7 million turnover.

Later they moved to an industrial park at Amphill, Bedfordshire, with Mr Affleck handling production and his wife marketing. Now they are transferring to double sized premises, with a new produc-

tion machine and 15 extra staff. They buy in and blend the flavours, producing ground coffee, beans and pre-ground sachets. Last year they introduced Christmas pudding flavour and an iced coffee with a mocha hint, which sold "phenomenally" in the hearwave.

They sell through roadshows, food halls, supermarkets and coffee

market is frozen yoghurt. Within three years Farm Produce Marketing has become a brand leader with a £1.5 million turnover. Responding to a report by Strathclyde University, which concluded that Britain should source more home produce, the three partners built a £200,000 dairy at a farm near Nantwich, putting in stainless steel equipment and freezers.

At the time, France and America led the frozen yoghurt market in Britain, but have been ousted by the Nantwich company. Research showed customers wanted a healthy, creamy product with fruit and a yoghurt taste — which is what they got, in three flavours.

"Many US yoghurts taste like ice-cream," says Jonathan Middlemiss, managing director and previously with ICI. Michael Allwood, a former dairy farmer, is financial director, and Jonathan Cope, who worked for a food broker, is director of marketing.

There is always potential for someone who has a good, high-quality product

specialists. Ironically, they sell to the huge US market. Mrs Affleck explains: "Competition there is so high, companies compete on price and the quality suffers. So a US department store ordered seven pallet loads from us."

They have learnt from this: "If we get UK competition, we'll still maintain quality." Another niche

Architect rates rural charm a winner

By IOLA SMITH

IDENTIFYING business and design trends that could give rural areas the edge in the early decades of the 21st century is the aim of a £15,000 study ordered by the Development Board for Rural Wales.

The work is being undertaken by Robin Coombes, an architect with the Cardiff-based Burgess Partnership. He is convinced that rural areas' outstanding landscapes will be the key to their success in the next millennium as green issues become increasingly prominent.

"Designers, developers and the business community alike will be seeking ways of ensuring that business premises and their products will be environmentally friendly," he says. "Architects, for example, will be looking for new recyclable building materials and will be seeking to construct factories and offices that are more energy-efficient."

The DBRW is already moving in this direction. It has constructed Britain's first purpose-built eco-factory, at Machynlleth. The board and Mr Coombes want to extend this approach across the region.

Ensuring that the built environment blends into the landscape will be a priority of the study. "The beauty of the landscape is the reason that Mr Coombes believes that achieving such a blend will be easier in rural business parks than on inner-city industrial estates."

"Small is beautiful" is another trend that may have a big impact on business life in rural communities. Mr Coombes believes that small businesses in the remoter corners of rural areas should concentrate on meeting the needs of high-quality, niche markets. "I'm thinking in terms of lifestyle businesses, such as yacht building or high-quality publishing, where customers come to the company," he says. "Locating such businesses in attractive landscapes makes customers even more willing to travel to the workshops."

Being outside the main business areas is seen as less of a problem next century, as technology diminishes the importance of physical infrastructure. Rural businesses can compete electronically with city-centre firms, so, once again, indirect considerations, such as the quality of a location as a place to live and work in, come to the fore.



"Oh yes, I'm constantly the victim of a crime!"

Helping hand for the cheesemakers

FEW FOODS are more strongly regional than cheese. With several hundred varieties, it forms an essential ingredient of many small food shops.

The Specialist Cheesemakers' Association (SCA), formed in 1989 to deal with Listeria worries and EC regulations, supports and advises 120 makers whose products include sheep and goats' cheese. Its 350 members include retailers and wholesalers. The SCA points beginners towards appropriate courses.

It has produced a *Guide To The Finest Cheeses of Britain and Ireland* by Juliet Harbutt. She observes that, though farmhouse makers have declined in number for most of this century, in the past decade a new generation of cheesemakers has revived the art, recipes and techniques.

To promote the trade, a cheese festival is held most years. There are also two annual farm open days, when members meet retailers and other producers. The next, in the middle of this month, will be in Scotland. "Cheesemakers are often a one or two-man band," explains

Jane Maskew SCA secretary. "Many start because they are farmers and have excess milk."

Among local products at Say Cheese delicatessen in Herstmonceux, East Sussex, is one using a 100-year-old recipe, used when the springtime "rush of milk" meant farms had to find some way to put it to good use. They made a simple cheese. Now it is popular again.

David and Eleanor Robins, the owners, who have opened a second shop at Lewes, stock cheeses from all over Sussex, parts of Surrey and a farm in Normandy. French bread and rolls are baked daily. Fungi, fresh or dried, are a locally grown speciality; there are oils, vinegars and verjuice, an ancient condiment made with grapes.

The couple employ six part-timers and reckon they put in 7½ days a week. "It's incredibly hard work if you want to maintain standards," says Eleanor.

Specialist Cheesemakers' Association: PO Box 448, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 0BF. Tel: 01827 580580. Say Cheese Tel: 01323 833871.

Tecs out to aid ethnic enterprise

RESEARCH is to be conducted to pinpoint the special needs of small businesses run by members of ethnic minorities (Brian Collett writes).

London's eight training and enterprise councils (Tecs) decided to commission the research after their earlier survey, *London: Open City*, found that discrimination against ethnic minorities in business and employment was still widespread.

The new study will consider a range of obstacles to prosperity among ethnic businesses. Many Asian business people, for example, follow their custom of finding loans only within their own families or communities and not even considering outside help.

Ram Gidoomal, a board member of Solotec, the Tec for south London, encountered this cultural barrier when an Asian man refused a visit to his own address. He insisted on going to Mr Gidoomal's office. "Borrowing from outsiders is not only not customary but is also considered shameful," Mr Gidoomal explained.

Many young Asian people do not share that reservation, but this attitude can cause a generation clash.

Afro-Caribbean people are, in many cases, reluctant to trust outside agencies or lenders. Mr Gidoomal said that ethnic minorities found obtaining start-up funding in the 1960s and 1970s harder than did indigenous entrepreneurs. A problem in the 1990s was finding funds for business growth.

The Tecs are engaging consultants to do the research, and hope to produce a report by Christmas and start using it to build support services for new or developing businesses.

Pharmacists battle to keep RPM

By BRIAN COLLETT

PRESSURE is being exerted by pharmacists and their customers on the Office of Fair Trading to keep resale price maintenance on over-the-counter branded medicines.

The campaigners fear that without the controls, large chains and supermarkets will undercut independent chemist shops and cause thousands of them to close. The OFT last considered resale price maintenance of medicines in 1970. If it believes there is now a case to scrap the controls it will ask the Restrictive Practices Court for a ruling.

In gathering evidence, the OFT sought views from individual pharmacists and the Community Pharmacy Action Group, formed to fight for resale price maintenance. It has now received a petition opposing abolition run by Labour MPs and prospective parliamentary candidates.

The action group, formed by pharmacists with manufacturers and wholesalers, claims the backing of 165 MPs and



Instant advice can often be had in the traditional chemist shop — a service that could be lost

support from 17 organisations representing more than half a million people. A study that it commissioned from Deloitte &

Touche, the management consultancy, reported that abolition could close up to 3,055 pharmacies. It estimated that

additional annual travelling costs to customers could reach £15.9 million. This, however, would be only part of the

problem, said the action group.

A spokeswoman said customers would lose the prescription medicine delivery service offered by many high-street pharmacists and the instant advice received in the traditional chemist shop. The consultancy report said that even if a tenth of those who buy over-the-counter medicines saw their doctors instead, the annual cost to the NHS could be nearly £5 billion.

The spokeswoman said most of the customers who rely on chemist shops do not have cars. One group, Parents at Work, said: "Locally based pharmacies offer a particularly vital service to parents with young children, many of whom lack access to services further afield. Community-based pharmacies can also help by advising parents about minor childhood ailments, cutting down needless time spent visiting doctors' surgeries."

The OFT decision is expected by November.

BRIEFINGS

□ An innovation competition has been started by NatWest for small businesses in Merseyside and North Wales. The winner will be chosen from eight finalists and will receive £5,000 cash and £5,000 in consultancy services. The first finalist is Mast Diagnostics, of Bootle, which has invested £90,000 over eight years in a system that dispenses paper discs impregnated with antibiotics directly on to Petri dishes for rapid diagnosis. It has worldwide potential in microbiology laboratories.

□ Thousands of small business owners have traded

□ The tenth edition of the Lloyds Bank Small Business

Guide, written by Sara Williams, is being published this week in Penguin paperback priced at £16.

□ Most owners of small businesses interviewed in a Kingston University survey said that they preferred their companies not to expand much further, if at all. They feared that growth would involve larger premises, more employees, higher overheads and greater vulnerability to falls in demand, and believed they would lose some of their control if they

brought in an extra management layer. The survey, which was conducted for the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, costs £9.95. Contact: 0141-309 3999.

□ The Institute of Directors has welcomed a consultation paper by the Government on streamlining business support schemes, saying that simplification will lead to an improvement in the quality and accessibility of the services provided. The Institute of Directors favoured involving businesses more directly

in deciding the services to be provided, but it expressed some concern about how the Business Link network, which is still in its early stages, would cope with the proposed new financial and administrative responsibilities.

□ An entrepreneurs' club has been set up by the City Women's Network, a national business organisation for senior managerial and professional women. The club is a special interest group for members who work for themselves, or are considering going into business.

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Manager
T Burns (Celtic)



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When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

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☐ All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.

POINTS DEDUCTED	
Goalkeeper	Booked
Concedes goal	Concedes penalty
Full back/Central defender	Misses penalty
Concedes goal	Scores own goal
All players	Manager
Sent off	Team loss



Calls will be charged at 38p per minute cheap rate, 48p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

IN		
20804 ...	Paul Parke	Derby County £1.00m
32804 ...	Claus Lunkenheim	Southampton £0.50m
62302 ...	Tommy McLusken	Raith Rovers £0.75m
MOVED		
42508 .	Robbie Slater (from West Ham)	Southampton £1.00m
OUT		
41904 ...	Jamie Pollock	Middlesbrough £2.00m
21401 ...	Tom Black	Kilmarnock £0.75m

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pos
1	Swans Eagles 96 FC	(G Jennings)	12
2	Inta Goo	(G Lupton)	12
3=	Ward Wanderers	(S West)	12
3=	Best Of The Best	(R Ruparelia)	12
3=	Ginger	(T P Leah)	12
3=	Sky Times III	(L McCulloch)	12
3=	Flying Foreigners	(D Thomas)	12
8=	Evans Above FC	(A Grant)	12
9	NST Monkstone	(J Staszewicz)	12
10	Caps United	(J M Brown)	12
11=	Daggers	(V Cox)	12
11=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	12
11=	Staffs	(I Longstaff)	12
11=	Plan 8 FC	(R Ayres)	12
11=	The Foreign Legion	(S Allen)	12
16=	AFC Domesies	(G Singh Mengat)	11
18=	Arrogant FC	(F K Taylor)	11
18=	Keltic Warriors	(D Connancan)	11
18=	White Faethers	(M Catchpole)	11
18=	DFFCI	(D Findlay)	11
18=	Matthews XI	(M Caunt)	11
18=	The Trowler	(G Barnister)	11
23=	Alban Harrier Xs	(A Hynes)	11
23=	Alderscarp Villa	(M Jones)	11
25=	Matt's Dream 11	(M Barnes)	11
25=	Plastic Fillets 10	(T Feehily)	11
25=	Shack Attack	(R Shackleton)	11
25=	Erevenge On Judus	(F N Hit)	11
25=	Natschaki's Team	(N Macfarlane)	11
25=	By By Two	(A Wray)	11
31=	The Big Dances FC	(G Solomon)	11
31=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	11
31=	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	11
31=	PM Select	(M Kitchen)	11
31=	Crowline	(S Luckhurst)	11
36=	On The Up Two	(J Corfield)	11
36=	Snappers United	(W Gaylor)	11
36=	The Wonderstuff	(M Oram)	11
36=	Art's Allstars	(A Bang)	11
36=	Alan's Allstars	(E Skellton)	11
36=	Garfield's Gang	(G Rutledge)	11
42=	Dutch Courage	(R Van Duinenbeek)	11
42=	Jones Boys Sixy	(M Jones)	11
42=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	11
42=	The Triple Double	(I Rahim)	11
42=	Bulstrode Knights	(A R Glover)	11
42=	Careless Whisper	(L Geary)	11
42=	Smallbone Rovers	(A Bowd)	11
42=	—	(C Haines)	11
42=	—	(S Mellor)	11
42=	Portia FC 2	(R J Weston)	11
52=	Class 1	(D Clark)	11
52=	Charlton Ath	(P Fromm)	11
52=	Where's Ray Gone?	(L Allum)	11
52=	LA Stars	(A Chaung)	11
52=	The Foreign Legion	(M L Jones)	11
52=	Jones Boys One	(R Kaderathoy)	11
52=	Wish Out United	(R Crook)	11
52=	Wish Out Boys	(G Gamm)	11
52=	Wollaston Wolves	(J McCollison)	11
52=	Soccer Superstars	(J Brock)	11
52=	Dean's Lovely Bears	(D Pearce)	11
52=	Aspray First XI	(I M Todd)	11
52=	Todd Utd	(A Deye)	11
52=	Toto Calcio	(J Brown)	11
65=	Nobby J	(J Jones)	11
65=	All Sorts XI	(A Lane)	11
65=	Hup Herringby	(R Seager)	11
65=	Brill XI	(A F Mohammed)	11
65=	Domino FC	(Wright)	11
65=	Cheer Up Greaves	(J Whitham)	11

49p other times.

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Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
105	Guzzes Champions	(R Florence)	109	184	Jones Boys II	(M Jones)	107
105	AC Fantasy FC	(M Skippen)	109	184	Greene's Greets 1	(G Carvat)	107
105	Warka Mean Team	(S John)	109	184	FCBs Kintvrie	(D M Lyth)	107
105	The Italian Job	(A Krown)	109	184	Joe's Hotvire	(N Howe)	107
105	Reinbow Captains	(G Thomas)	108	184	Bert's Boys	(B Treisaven)	107
117	Glenfield	(A Divers)	108	184	Research Dogs	(A Piano)	107
117	Time	(B J Monday)	108	184	Allstros X	(P Thornton)	107
117	Stuffs's All Sorts	(S Cook)	108	184	Harrisons Dream Team	(N Razele)	107
117	Shars Shards	(J Subbatt)	108	184	Rast's Rovers	(J McNamez)	107
117	Top's Toppers	(J Sumner)	108	184	Mad For It XI	(B Howes)	107
117	APC Snow	(M Lersall)	108	184	Bne 4	(D Bkewfield)	107
117	Inter Continental	(O Aale-Browne)	108	184	Desmo's Stars	(S Baxter)	107
117	The Browne Eagles	(no name)	108	184	Labour Curtain	(N Watson)	107
117	—	(no name)	108	184	New Shalton FC	(J Pull)	107
117	—	(no name)	108	184	Botak United 1	(D Barker)	107
117	Hutton Hotspur	(P Sheridan)	108	184	Saint Vito	(D Brunt)	107
117	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	108	184	Round Robins	(D Brunt)	107
117	Champions Elect	(L Spence)	108	184	Orc	(D Alton)	107
117	La Triumph	(M Lersall)	108	184	United In Footy	(M Corless)	107
117	Deaf Men Can Manage	(R E H Turnercliffe)	108	184	Abc	(M Baber)	107
117	Noah's Ark	(G P Doll)	108	184	Colbines Lt	(J Chaplin)	107
117	Patto's Allstars	(D Patison)	108	184	Nobby	(J Brown)	107
117	Mud's Marvels	(M Prentice)	108	184	Ne	(H Somerville)	107
117	Timbuc 2	(O Leyland)	108	184	Greenhills Strollers	(G Strollers)	107
117	Europe United	(P O'Donnell)	108	184	Ykes Ytzy	(D Flory)	107
117	Sensawell	(S Bown)	108	184	Al's 1st 11	(A Davies)	107
117	The Hustonmuts	(J Hodgson)	108	184	Kings Castoms	(A Oldbury)	107
117	The Dreams	(C Rye)	108	184	Dave's Devils	(D Cook)	107
117	Good Fellas	(C McGowan)	108	184	Sotry Lucs	(M Jones)	107
117	Untouchables	(M Parlor)	108	184	Storm	(P Mills)	107
142	Pot's Pride	(P Smithy)	107	184	Do I Not Like Man Utd	(C D Woodward)	107
142	ST Utd	(M O'Driscoll)	107	184	Glassbacks XI	(P Allen)	107
142	Affilia Rovers	(A McKerr)	107	184	Southwood Boys	(M Caltner)	107
142	Beyond Care	(P Foster)	107	184	Broth Spoilers Three	(E Cook)	107
142	Peacock United	(J Wood)	107	184	Baxter's Babes	(M Baxter)	107
142	Low Flying Swans	(K Morris)	107	184	Primrose Play Boys	(M Cook)	107
142	—	(D Phillips)	107	184	Scottie's Stars	(S Davies)	107
142	Half A Chance	(T Bessing)	107	184	Spartacus Times	(M G Holt)	107
142	Insoukies	(L.A. Torrison)	107	184	Fowler's Furys	(B Bymes)	107
142	Silver Shooters	(P Farnworth)	107	184	Yogge's Boys	(M Jacobs)	107
142	Supersonic	(A Shelton)	107	184	The Onion Beggars	(T Elliot)	107
142	Sydney's Men	(J H Melbourne)	107	184	Atax's Allstars	(A Howes)	107
142	Unholy Alliance	(I Robinson)	107	184	Smitty Rovers	(J H Morrison)	107
142	Stimpson & Co	(P Simpson)	107	184	Cavaliers	(P Smith)	107
142	Proton Powderer	(A Ffrench)	107	184	Copley Cougars	(P Bray)	107
142	Alten XI	(P Djerani)	107	184	Wizards Of Oz	(P Osborn)	107
142	Reservoir Dogs	(A Phelan)	107	184	PC PC	(P Kent)	107
142	Steven's Wonders	(S Montgomery)	107	184	Manchester Tigers	(M Hussain)	107
142	Ashley FC	(L A Taylor)	107	184	AC Trumpton	(N Burchall)	107
142	Frank FC	(N Foord)	107	184	The Speciale	(P Dowling)	107
142	The Kumer XI	(A Kumar)	107	184	Reding Ltd	(A Nyazali)	107
142	One Tree Hill	(M Day)	107	184	Philomemo FC	(P Bentham)	107
184	Ruddy's Blue Boys	(R Whitford)	106	184	Perfecto Allstars	(A Piano)	106
184	No Hope United	(S R Ford)	106	184	Barry Army	(S Richardson)	106
184	Ratho Station Raiders	(J Kerr)	106	184	Gullitigod	(P Roberts)	106
184	John Hunt Tumbler E	(J Hunt)	106	184	Boca Seniors	(A Anoz)	106
184	Emms And Helen	(D Linsley)	106	184	The Muppets	(A Mount)	106
184	Skyforest	(A Bunton)	106	184	Pecanemakers Over	(A Piano)	

هكذا من الأصل

The ITF players, their points, and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Gr
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-3	
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-1	-1	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+7	
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0	
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	-8	-8	
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	0	
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	+2	+9	
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn	3.00	-1	-8	
10402	S Given	Blackburn	2.00	0	0	
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	+5	+3	
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	+5	+10	
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+1	
10701	P Ogilvie	Coventry City	1.50	-8	-18	
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0	
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0	
10802	R Houl	Derby County	1.00	-1	-10	
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	-1	-2	
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	0	
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	-3	-7	
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-8	-1	
11102	J Kearton	Everton	0.50	0	0	
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	0	
11201	G Rousset	Hibernian	2.00	+5	+6	
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-9	-1	
11401	D Leckie	Kilmarnock	1.00	-3	-13	
11501	M Beemey	Leeds United	1.50	0	0	
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0	
11601	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-2	-5	
11602	K Poole	Leeds United	1.00	0	0	
11603	Z Kalac	Leeds United	0.50	0	0	
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	+2	+2	
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0	
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester Utd	5.00	+4	+2	
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester Utd	1.00	0	0	
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	0	
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	+4	-3	
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-1	+2	
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle Utd	4.00	0	0	
12102	P Smoek	Newcastle Utd	3.00	-2	0	
12201	M Crossley	Nottm Forest	2.50	+2	-1	
12202	A Fettes	Nottm Forest	0.75	0	0	
12203	T Wright	Nottm Forest	0.75	0	0	
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	-7	-19	
12401	A Gorm	Rangers	5.00	+5	+7	
12501	P Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00	-4	-1	
12601	D Beattie	Sheffield Wed	1.00	-3	-4	
12602	N Moss	Sheffield Wed	0.25	-3	-4	
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	0	0	
12801	T Coton	Sunderland	1.00	+2	+11	
12901	I Walker	Tottenham	3.50	-4	-5	
12902	L Mido	West Ham	2.00	-2	-7	
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	+10	+1	
13002	P Head	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0	



Milosevic, the Aston Villa forward, scored two goals on Saturday to open his ITF account, giving him six points

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Gr
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+3	
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-1	
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0	0	
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	-2	+4	
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	+5	
30204	A Linighan	Arsenal	1.00	0	0	
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0	0	
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	+3	+13	
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	+8	+13	
30303	P McGrath	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0	
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0	
30305	R Seicea	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0	
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn	4.00	0	-2	
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn	2.50	0	0	
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn	2.50	0	-3	
30404	N Marker	Blackburn	0.50	0	0	
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	+4	+4	
30502	M Mackay	Celtic	1.50	0	0	
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	+1	+1	
30601	M Durberry	Chelsea	2.50	-2	-2	
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	+8	+20	
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	+5	+10	
30606	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	+2	+13	
30607	J Kjeldberg	Chelsea	0.50	0	0	
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	0	-8	
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	-4	-5	
30703	D Bussit	Coventry City	1.00	0	0	
30801	I Smith	Derby County	2.50	-1	-8	
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0	
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	+3	-1	
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	0	
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	0	0	
31001	M Miller	Dunfermline	0.75	0	0	
31002	I den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	-2	-1	
31101	D Blesworth	Everton	2.50	-3	-5	
31102	P Dennis	Everton	2.50	0	+1	
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	-3	0	
31201	D McPherson	Hibernian	1.00	+4	+1	
31202	P Ritchie	Hibernian	1.00	+4	+6	
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	-5	-5	
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	+5	
31303	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	-4	-4	
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	0	
31402	R McGomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	-1	-3	
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	-1	+2	
31502	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1	
31503	L Radabe	Leeds United	1.00	-2	-5	
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0	
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+4	
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+8	
31603	S Ellis	Leicester City	0.50	0	0	
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+1	
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	+8	+12	
31702	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	0	
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	+4	+8	
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	+4	+10	
31801	G Pallister	Manchester Utd	3.50	-1	-2	
31802	D Nays	Manchester Utd	1.00	+4	+6	
31803	R Johnson	Manchester Utd	2.50	+4	+4	
31804	N Pearson	Manchester Utd	1.50	0	-8	
31901	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	+4	+2	
31902	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	+2	-1	
31903	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	+4	+3	
32001	M Van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	-1	-7	
32101	P Albert	Newcastle Utd	4.50	0	0	
32102	S Howey	Newcastle Utd	3.00	0	+2	
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle Utd	3.00	0	0	
32201	C Cooper	Nottm Forest	3.00	+2	+3	
32202	S Christie	Nottm Forest	2.50	+3	+3	
32301	S Smith	Raith Rovers	1.00	0	0	
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+7	+10	
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	0	0	
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+4	+7	
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	0	
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wed	1.50	-1	-5	
32503	B Lingham	Sheffield Wed	0.50	0	0	
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	0	
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	-2	0	
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0	0	
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0	0	
32701	A McIlwain	Sunderland	1.00	+3	+10	
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	0.50	0	0	
32703	R Lord	Sunderland	0.50	+3	+13	
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham	2.50	-1	+7	
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham	2.50	-3	+4	
32803	G Mabbitt	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	
32804	K Scott	Tottenham	0.50	0	0	
32805	S Methercott	Tottenham	0.50	0	0	
32901	S Bille	West Ham	2.50	0	-2	
32902	M Ripper	West Ham	2.50	+3	+3	
32903	S Potts	West Ham	2.00	-2	-2	
32904	R Hall	West Ham	1.50	0	0	
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham	0.50	0	0	
32906	A Whitbread	West Ham	0.25	0	0	
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0	
33002	A Thorn	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0	
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0	
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0	
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	+8	+5	
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0	

Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts	Wk	Gr
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	+3	+9	
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	+1	+6	
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	0	0	
40104	I Kiriakov	Aberdeen	0.50	+1	+3	
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	+1	+1	
40201	D Palfrey	Arsenal	4.50	+1	+1	
40202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	+6	+11	
40203	R Partridge	Arsenal	2.00	+2	+7	
40204	G Helder	Arsenal	1.50	0	0	
40205	I Seftley	Arsenal	0.50	0	0	
40206	D Hillier	Arsenal	0.50	0	0	
40207	E McGoldrick	Arsenal	0.50	0	0	
40208	S Viera	Arsenal	3.00	0	0	
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0	0	
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	+3	+8	
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	+3	+7	
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	-1	+4	
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0	
40305	F Curcio	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0	
40306	S Curcio	Aston Villa	3.50	+1	+3	
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn	4.00	0	0	
40402	L Bohinen	Blackburn	3.50	+1	+4	

31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0	+1
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	-3	0
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	+4	+1
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	+4	+6
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	-5	-5
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	0
32012	R Wells	Hibernian	0.50	+5	+4
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-1
31402	R Montgomery	Kilmarnock	0.75	-1	-3
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	-1	+2
31502	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	-2	-5
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31601	J Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	0	0
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+6
31603	P Kamsarak	Leicester City	0.50	0	0
31804	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+1
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	+8	+12
31702	J scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	0
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	+4	+8

NEWS

Church questions on Prince's role

■ The Prince of Wales's suitability to become Supreme Governor of the Church of England is being questioned at the highest level after Lord Runcie's assessment that he had "given up" on the Church years ago.

Church leaders, while publicly saying little, are appalled by the revelations in Humphrey Carpenter's biography of the former Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Prince's future position is now "under review". Page 1

Boy wins caning case hearing

■ A boy aged 12 cleared the first hurdle in bringing a test case in Europe which could lead to the smacking of children by parents being outlawed. The challenge stems from an incident three years ago when the boy's stepfather beat him with a garden cane after he tried to stab a child. Page 1

Labour's union move

Radical plans to prevent a Labour government being derailed by a wave of public sector pay strikes are to be put forward by the Labour leadership. Pages 1, 2

DNA data doubts

Britain's unique DNA database, a ground-breaking weapon in the fight against crime, is in disarray with less than half of the 168,000 samples sent by police having been processed. Page 1

Fraud loophole

Government lawyers are urgently working to plug a legal loophole that has seriously undermined the ability of prosecuting authorities to tackle a range of frauds. Page 1

Bank secrecy attack

The secrecy of offshore bank accounts in the British dependent territories should be abolished, said the former legal adviser for MIS and M16. Page 2

'£20m kidnap plot'

A kidnapper hatched a sophisticated £20 million extortion plan from his high security prison cell to abduct, torture and murder a wealthy businessman, a jury was told. Page 3

Parents' boycott

Parents removed more than half the pupils from a school in protest at the return of a disruptive ten-year-old over whom teachers came close to striking. Page 5

It's the all clear, Jeeves

■ Government files on P.G. Wodehouse, whose wartime activities led him to be branded a traitor, are to be released this month. The records are expected to clear Wodehouse of the treachery charge that has stained his reputation. The case against him was based on wartime broadcasts he made to America after being interned by the Germans. Page 3

Satanist jailed

A satanist who set out to kill a vicar with a knife was jailed for life for a frenzied attack on an 80-year-old woman. Page 6

Danger to research

University research is in danger of being stripped of its originality by ignorant and insensitive attempts to manage it, said the President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Page 8

Towering millennium

Sir Norman Foster unveiled a 1,265 ft snow-white, transparent London skyscraper. The £400 million, 92-storey London Millennium Tower would be the tallest building in Europe. Page 10

Balkan summit

Britain plans to host a summit of Balkan leaders and the foreign ministers of the big powers in an attempt to maintain peace in the region. Page 12

Prison preferred

Susan McDougal, President Clinton's former Whitewater business partner, opted to go to prison rather than testify about the President's alleged procurement of an illegal loan. Page 13

Kurd stronghold falls

The pro-Iraq Kurdish faction of Massoud Barzani captured Sulaimaniya from the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, said United Nations officials. Page 14



Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, yesterday visited the Dalston Youth Project in Hackney, north-east London and met Lessept Saunders, 76, who has joined the organisation's senior citizens' community group

BUSINESS

Debt negotiations: Eurotunnel admitted it may still be two months away from striking a deal with its 225 banks to restructure its £9 billion debt, although half-year operating losses are cut. Page 27

P&O Merger: Around 1,400 jobs are likely to be lost in the shipping industry after P&O announced a £2.6 billion tie-up between its container division and Dutch shipping company, Nedlloyd. Page 27

High Street boom: Sales rose again in August but another set of good factory-gate price figures pointed to continuing low inflation. Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 closed 17.8 up at 3910.8. Sterling fell from \$1.5635 to \$1.5601 and from DM2.3271 to DM2.3270. Page 30

SPORT

Football: Howard Wilkinson was sacked as manager of Leeds United after eight years, in the wake of a 4-0 home defeat by their great rivals, Manchester United. Page 52

Rugby union: Gentlemen's agreements have been replaced by a legal accord which will keep the five nations' championship for a minimum of ten years. Page 52

Tennis: Despite Pete Sampras's convincing win against Michael Chang in the US Open final, America is left wondering where it will find its next platoon of potential champions. Page 50

Athletics: The sound of gunfire could be heard repeatedly in Sarajevo but it was the starter's pistol, not the sniper's rifle, at the Kosovo Stadium. Page 47

ARTS

Venice winners: Neil Jordan's slice of Irish republican history, *Michael Collins*, took top prize at Venice but the film that stirred up most discussion was Jane Campion's strange Henry James adaptation, *The Portrait of a Lady*. Page 36

Elgar from Chicago: On tour with Daniel Barenboim, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra triumphed in Birmingham with a stylish performance of Elgar's *Faust*. Page 36

Chinese splendour: The British Museum show, *Mysteries of Ancient China*, is a revelation of a civilisation that, until a few decades ago, was barely known. Page 37

New on stage: The London New Plays Festival has its uneven moments but it is uncovering much new writing talent. Page 38

FEATURES

Tough-minded wife: Day three of the exclusive serialisation of Lord Runcie's biography describes the difficulties of an unconventional married life. Pages 16, 17

Innocent or guilty: Is trial by jury a bulwark against autocratic government or an institution that has failed to adapt? Page 39

A new way of thinking: There are now schemes to rehabilitate young criminals which show that locking them away is not the only answer. Page 41

Down at out at college: A couple explain how their son was forced to fend for himself. Page 34

Glass university: The first university to be built in a city centre for 25 years opens its doors in Lincoln this month. Page 34

LORD HANSON

While posing as a friend of small businesses, Labour plans to impose on them the Social Chapter and a minimum wage. This flies in the face of Britain's achievements on unemployment and productivity, better than those of Germany, France or Italy. Page 18

LIBBY PURVES

The row is not really about indiscretion: it is about attitude. Nor, I suspect, is the relationship between Lord Runcie and Humphrey Carpenter nearly so adversarial as some pretend. Read the subject's postscript in the book: "I have done my best to die before this book is published. It now seems possible that I may not succeed." Is that an outraged man, or just a twinklingly rueful one? Page 18

ANATOLE KALETSKY

London no longer has a skyline worth preserving. The pass was sold more than 30 years ago when the planners allowed the Hilton hotel, the Knightsbridge barracks and Centre Point. Page 18

OBITUARIES

Major-General Frank Richardson, former director of medical services, BAOR: George Baker, diplomat: Charles Kirby, adviser to President Carter. Page 2

LEADERS

Lord Runcie: the Bruce's heart: Labour and referendum: county court judges. Page 19



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

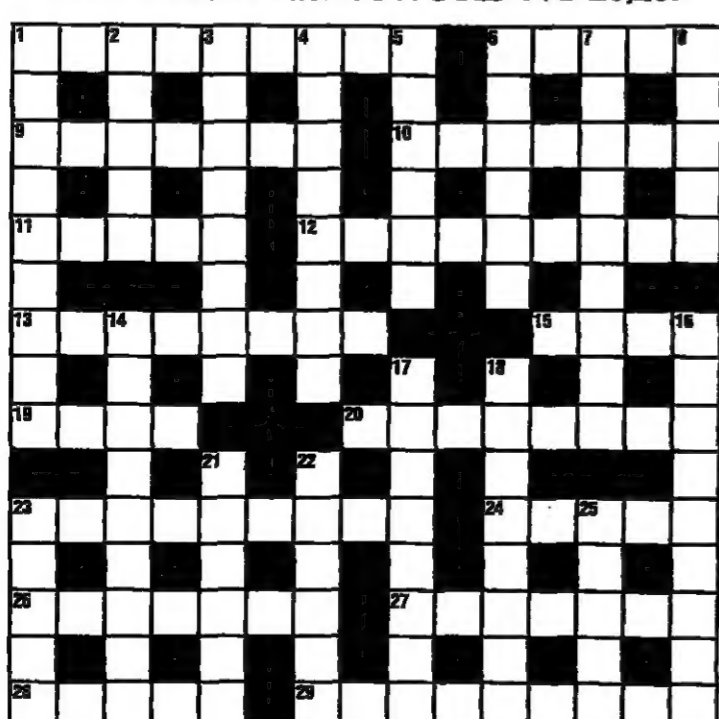
■ STYLE
What the best-dressed legs are wearing this autumn — and where to find the fit and flare that will flatter

■ NIGELLA LAWSON

The new dangers and new taboos of the modern stepfamily



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,269



- ACROSS**
- 1 Stones are fashioned for rings (9).
 - 6 High place for a bird to live in (5).
 - 9 Not so high praise (7).
 - 10 A stubborn worker seen around river vessel (7).
 - 11 Take out and clean (5).
 - 12 Failing to put one's foot down in time? (3,2,4).
 - 13 Was in occupation, with mind to become stakeholder? (8).
 - 15 At some distance away from a return of service (4).
 - 19 Stake boat (4).
 - 20 Identified the boy embracing a pretty girl (8).
 - 23 What's done about advance? It's put in the bank (9).
 - 24 Vocal nonsense associated with irrelevant spring flowers (3-2).
 - 26 Poem, an ode concocted in game (7).
- DOWN**
- 21 What a taxi-driver may do? That's a lot of rubbish! (6,3).
 - 22 Part of flight in latest aircraft (5).
 - 23 Mark closely and upset the club three-quarters (4,4).
 - 4 Amount of business that's produced by a patisserie (8).
 - 5 City home precedes tax cut (6).
 - 6 Advance warning that's pointless? (3-3).
 - 7 Liberal peeress (9).
 - 8 Tether that is restricting ram? On the contrary! (3,2).
 - 14 Neat sum (9).
 - 16 Obviously guilty, having a fistful of diamonds? (3-6).
 - 17 Duck, a forage? (8).
 - 18 Hair-clutching salesmen, crawlers (8).
 - 21 Article getting serious towards the end (6).
 - 22 Attacked and stabbed ringleader inside (6).
 - 23 Incredible fiddle shown up in this board game (5).
 - 25 House gets this speech from one of the parties (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,268

SUBTRACT STURRY
I E E O I N O
COASTGUARD DEIL
K N R R E S
RENT IN THE RICH
E E I I O I
STAND BY IGNORED
S A H E
RATFACE STAMPEDE
O A K C P A R
S A N K C H O U R S E
T K A O G A S
H E R A T R O L L E V U S
R E A A N E
LEADER GRANDFUR

Times Two Crossword, page 52

TIMES WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, call 0800 1 500 followed by the appropriate code

Region	Forecast
Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
South East	704
West Midlands	705
East Midlands	706
North East	707
North West	708
Yorkshire & the Humber	709
East of England	710
West of England	711
South West	712
North of Scotland	713
West of Scotland	714
East of Scotland	715
North of Ireland	716
West of Ireland	717
East of Ireland	718
South of Ireland	719
North of Wales	720
West of Wales	721
East of Wales	722
South of Wales	723
North of England	724
West of England	725
East of England	726
South of England	727
North of Scotland	728
West of Scotland	729
East of Scotland	730
North of Ireland	731
West of Ireland	732
East of Ireland	733
South of Ireland	734
North of Wales	735
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South of Ireland	794
North of Wales	795
West of Wales	796
East of Wales	797
South of Wales	798
North of England	799
West of England	800

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, call 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code

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South of England	757
North of Scotland	758
West of Scotland	759
East of Scotland	760
North of Ireland	761
West of Ireland	762
East of Ireland	763
South of Ireland	764
North of Wales	765
West of Wales	766
East of Wales	767
South of Wales	768
North of England	769
West of England	770

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday's highest and lowest temperatures, 21°C (70°F); lowest daily mean: Banbury, West Yorkshire, 12°C (54°F); highest rainfall: Folkestone, 0.9in; highest sunshine: Glasgow, 11hr

FORECAST

■ General: eastern parts of England will be mostly cloudy with the odd shower or spot of light rain, but many places will be dry. It will feel rather chilly in a brisk north wind. Wales and the west will be brighter with sunny intervals and temperatures close to normal.

■ Northern Ireland and southwest Scotland will be dry and bright with some sunshine. Temperatures will be slightly above normal in places.

■ North and east Scotland will be more cloudy overall, while patchy drizzle in the north will become more persistent later. It will feel rather chilly despite normal temperatures.

■ London, S E England, E Anglia, E England: cloudy with the odd light shower likely. Wind north, mainly moderate. Chilly in places. Max 15C (64F).

■ Central S England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, S W England, S Wales: dry and bright with sunny intervals. Wind north or northeast, light. Max 18C (64F).

■ E Midlands, Central N England, N E England: rather cloudy but mainly dry, a few sunny intervals. Wind north or northwest, light or moderate. Max 18C (64F).

■ N Wales, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: mostly dry and bright with sunny intervals. Wind mainly northwest, light or moderate. Max 18C (64F).

■ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: mainly dry, rather cloudy, but a few sunny intervals likely. Wind mainly northwest, light or moderate. Max 16C (61F).

■ N E Scotland, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: cloudy with some rain or drizzle, especially later. Wind northwest to west, light or moderate. Max 15C (59F).

■ Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: generally similar, though some patchy rain will spread south across eastern districts.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=light; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=drizzle; du=duke; f=fast; g=gale; h=hail; l=light; m=moderate; n=normal; o=overcast; r=rain; s=sunny; t=thunder; w=wind; x=unknown; y=yellow

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North of Ireland	731
West of Ireland	732
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North of Wales	735
West of Wales	736
East of Wales	737
South of Wales	738
North of England	739
West of England	740

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AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY